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E-mail your legislator !!

New investment vehicle for CPN members available

TRIBAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES OFFERED



The Nation is offering a new Tribal Savings Certificate investment opportunity for CPN members through its First National Bank.

The **Tribal Savings Certificate** is a 100% federally guaranteed loan participation in a First National Bank Section 184 loan. Special arrangements have been made to allow CPN members to participate in this loan in amounts as low as \$2,500 and for periods as short as six months.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation recognizes that the recession has reduced income for retired and working tribal members through losses in public stock, lowered dividends, and falling savings deposit rates. In addition to these losses,

their income is subject to income tax.

Chairman John Barrett, advocating the new program, said, "Our people are looking for a safe, high-return place to put their savings investments. The safety of investments is a vital issue in this volatile stock market and banking environment. The Nation will soon provide a 100% federally guaranteed tax-exempt investment that pays above-market interest. This will be done by allowing tribal members to participate in federally guaranteed loans made by First National Bank under the Indian

Home Loan Guarantee Program."

The Indian home loan program (Section 184) is funded annually by Congress for Native American home ownership opportunities throughout Indian Country.

The Indian Home Loan Guarantee Program (Section 184) is funded annually by Congress. The program is offered to Native Americans and Native American Tribes. It provides homeownership opportunities throughout Indian Country in the United States. The program was developed specifically for Native Americans seeking homeownership opportunities on fee-simple land in an Indian area, on Tribal Trust Land, or on individually allotted land on a reservation.

Loans made by a bank that is an "approved lender" for Section 184 loans are 100% guaranteed by the United States Government. The lender cannot lose money on the loan. First National Bank is an approved Section 184 lender.

For the benefit of the tribal savings certificate participants, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Program will initially borrow \$1 million from First National Bank under the Section 184 Loan Program for public housing it owns and operates for low income and low income elderly tenants. The collateral for this loan will be the Rossville housing project, which is approved for a Section 184 loan.

First National Bank sells "participations" in its loan to other parties on a regular basis. Normally, loan participations are only sold to other banks or large investors.

The current market tax-exempt interest

See **SAVINGS CERTIFICATES** on page 3



1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, OK 74801

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

PRST STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
OKLA CITY, OK
PERMIT NO. 1541

Walking On

Brenda Clark



FITTSTOWN, Oklahoma - Services for Brenda Joyce Clark, 55, Fittstown, were held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, at the Criswell Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Ken Huneycutt officiated. Burial followed at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Francis, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Clark died on Saturday, September 13, 2008 at a Shawnee hospital. She was born September 8, 1953 at Ada, Oklahoma, the daughter of Harold F. and

Mildred Maxine Wilson Matthews. She lived in the Ada area all her life and graduated from Allen, Oklahoma High School.

She married Claud Clark on October 23, 1987 in Ada. Mrs. Clark was a self-employed sign painter and a member of New Hope Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Claud Clark, of the home; two daughters, Toni Collins and her husband, Tony, of Ada, and Melinda Odell and her husband Billy of Tulsa; and one son, Danny Clark and wife, Jerri, of Park City, Kentucky; nine grandchildren; and a sister, Janice Sherbourne of Ada.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Claud Clark Jr.; and a brother, Freddie Matthews.

Pallbearers were Gary Matthews, Kanan Matthews, John Linebarger, Fred Marten, Jimmy Boyd, and Keith Wood.

Joyce Ann Waite

Longtime Ridgecrest, California resident Joyce Ann Waite passed away on Tuesday, September 9, 2008, at Ridgecrest Regional Hospital. She was 74.

Joyce was born on March 25, 1934, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She moved from Lancaster, California to Ridgecrest in



1971. She was a homemaker and a member of the Desert Art League, and the Four Winds Inter-tribal Council.

She was preceded in death by Lenny Waite in 1988.

She is survived by her husband, Edward Waite, of Ridgecrest; her daughter, Laura Moore of Ridgecrest; her son, Edward Waite, of Utah; sister, Shirley Tescier of South Dakota; six grandsons; three granddaughters; six great-grandsons; nine great-granddaughters; and many friends and extended-family members.

Services were private. Arrangements were provided by Holland & Lyons Mortuary.

Ladona June Bradway

Ladona June Bradway, age 58, of Clayton, Oklahoma died on August 30, 2008 at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina,

Oklahoma. She was born on January 30, 1950 in Sardis, Oklahoma the daughter of Harvey and Lydia (Norris) Shockley.

Ladona was a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service and a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

She is survived by her husband, Edward L. Bradway of the home; daughters, Lessie and Alistiar Brown of Idaho Falls, Indiana, Cassie Bradway of Provo, Utah; grandsons, Theron Brown and Gareth Brown, both of Idaho Falls, Idaho; parents, Harvey and Lydia Shockley of Clayton, Oklahoma; brother Danny Shockley and his wife Margaret of Clayton, Oklahoma;

and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a son, Wesley Bradway, and a sister, Deana Pennington.

Pallbearers were Steve Carson, Bob Gulley, Dallin Shaw, Alistiar Brown, Larry Dennis, and Mike Gilbert. Funeral services were held on September 2, 2008 at the Clayton School Auditorium in Clayton, Oklahoma, with Rusty Shaw, Bill Tays, and Sam Ingle officiating. Interment followed at Sardis Cemetery in Clayton, Oklahoma. Arrangements were under the direction of Clayton Funeral Home of Clayton, Oklahoma.

David R. DeGraff

SHAWNEE, Oklahoma - Shawnee resident David R. DeGraff, 81, died Saturday, October 4, 2008, at his residence. He was born Aug. 21, 1927, in Shawnee to Evelyn and Tom Covey (stepfather) and Fredrick DeGraff. He attended Capitol Hill High School.

On July 4, 1981, he married Evelyn Gamble. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. David retired from P.P.G. Industries as a Distribution Center Manager. He was a member of the American Legion and the Citizen Potawatomi Navarre/DeGraff families.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, David Richard DeGraff Jr.; and one sister and brother-in-law, Gloria and Charles Gibson.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn DeGraff of the home; a daughter, Dona Couch and her husband James of Choctaw, Oklahoma; a stepson, Justin Flowers, and his wife Melissa of DeQueen, Arkansas; one stepdaughter, Shellie Stocks-Silva, and husband Greg of Houston; one nephew, T.C. Gibson, and his wife Ginger of Oklahoma City; grandchildren Mason and Hattie Couch, Madison, Michael, Breana, and Ashley Flowers, and Summer Stocks; sister-in-law, Gene Darsey and her family; and brother-in-law John Sullivan and his family.

A service was held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 11 at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Pow Wow Grounds with Vice Chairman Linda Capps officiating.

HOWNIKAN

The *HowNiKan* is published by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with offices at 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

The *HowNiKan* is mailed free to enrolled tribal members. Subscriptions to non-members are available for \$10 annually in the United States and \$12 for foreign countries.

The *HowNiKan* is a member of the Native American Journalists Association. Reprint permission is granted with publication credit to the *HowNiKan* and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

All letters and submissions become the property of the *HowNiKan*. Editorials and letters are subject to editing and must contain traceable address. Final selection of material for publication is subject to approval by the Business Committee.

All correspondence should be directed to *HowNiKan*, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801. Address changes should be sent to Citizen Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1899 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.

CPN Executive Committee:

Chairman - John A. Rocky Barrett

Vice Chairman - Linda Capps

Sec./Treasurer - D. Wayne Trousdale

Editor - Michael Dodson

Toll-Free Number: 800-880-9880

Thomas Jefferson 'Tom' Lowe

Thomas Jefferson 'Tom' Lowe of Moffett, Oklahoma was born October 23, 1939 in Bower, Oklahoma, the son of George Edward 'Ed' Lowe and Maggie (Ttoupian) Lowe. He was married to Sandy Shropshire on December 23, 1986 in Van Buren, Arkansas.

Mr. Lowe began his career as a Sequoyah County Reserve Deputy and Jailer under Sheriff Sam Lockhart and served in three Sheriff administrations, spanning more than 20 years. He also served in law enforcement in many towns across eastern Oklahoma and was involved in private security in the area. Mr. Lowe was the Moffett, Oklahoma Chief of Police for five years and a former City of Sallisaw street department employee. At the time of his passing, he worked as an armed security guard at Blue Ribbon Downs Racino in Sallisaw, Oklahoma and was a member of Moffett Baptist Mission.

He passed from this life on June 14, 2008 in Ft. Smith, Arkansas after having attained the age of 68 years, 7 months, and 21 days.

Survivors are wife Sandy of the home; two daughters, Jennifer Davenport of Ft. Smith, Arkansas and Terrie Duncan of Wichita Falls, Texas; two sons, Jimmy Lowe of Henrietta, Texas and Tommy Lowe of Holiday, Texas; six grandchildren, Dudley, Stephanie, LeAnne, Sierra, Maddie, and Cami; three sisters, Willie Dawson, Betty Moore, and Edna Jones; two brothers, Bud Lowe and Frank Lowe; mother-in-law, Audrey Blankenship of Sallisaw; three brothers-in-law, Jimmy and Randy Shropshire, both of Sallisaw, and Rev. Tommy Shropshire of Vian, Oklahoma; and 36 nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Steven Paul Lowe; and two sisters, Audrey and Ruth.

Honorary pallbearers were Don Williams, Bill Scott, Robert Criswell, Chuck Miller, law enforcement public servants, and his co-workers.

Leah R. Mitchell

Leah R. Mitchell, 72, passed away on September 24, 2008. She was born on January 16, 1936 in Oklahoma City.

Leah and her family moved to Norman, Oklahoma in 1980, where she went to work for the University of Oklahoma. She retired from a position at OU.

Mitchell is survived by two sons, Ken



Mitchell and his wife Karla and Jeff Mitchell and his wife Kara; three grandchildren, Kris Mitchell and his wife Amy, Jeffrey Mitchell Jr., and Amanda Mitchell; and one great-grandson, Jason Mitchell.

The family carried out Leah's wish of no funeral service. They respectfully request that, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations be made to the Tulsa Chapter, National Multiple Sclerosis Society (918-488-0882) or at www.oke.nationalmssociety.org.

Arrangements were handled by Havenbrook Funeral Home of Norman. Send condolences online at www.HavenbrookFuneralHome.com/Obituaries.htm.

Carroll Don Upton



Carroll Don Upton, 67, of Oklahoma City, died on May 15, 2008 in his home. He was born on September 4, 1940, the son of Emory and Mildred (Sales) Upton

See *WALKING ON* on page 11

Savings Certificates, con't from page 1



The Nation's Rossville, Kansas housing complex will serve as collateral for the Tax Savings Certificate program for tribal members.

rate for these loans is 6.5%. The normal term for these loans is 20 to 25 years. However, First National Bank will now allow Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members to participate as lenders in its Section 184 loan for the Rossville, Kansas housing project in increments of \$2500 for terms of six months or more.

"This endeavor has been a vision of Chairman Barrett's for several years. In view of today's economy, the time is right for us to offer the program to our tribal members. The exciting aspect of this project is that it may be just the beginning of similar programs that our people can participate in for successful investments," said Vice Chairman Linda Capps.

First National Bank will have a first mortgage on the property that is not subject to tribal sovereign immunity from suit protections in the event of default. Loan participants will also be proportionate holders of that first mortgage.

The borrower is the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. The Nation will guarantee payment of the loan principal and interest to First National Bank and its participants who hold "Tribal Savings Certificates." If the Nation does not pay, the federal government will guarantee payment.

Applications for savings certificates will be available after November 15, 2008. See the Nation's Web site - www.Potawatomi.org.

Attention: CPN Members in the Greater Oklahoma City Area

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation (CPN) is partnering with Oklahoma Gas and Electric (OG&E) to provide weatherization services for homes owned and occupied by CPN members in the greater OkC area and who receive electricity from OG&E.

The CPN Housing Authority is looking for qualified applicants who are interested in having an energy audit performed on their homes. There are limited funds for this weatherization program, and it will operate on a first-come, first served-basis. The amount of work performed on each home will be based on the size of the home.

Some of the requirements for this program are: Gross Annual Income at 80% of the current National Median Income or below (See FY 2008 National Income Limits); Home built before 1996; Provision of proof of homeownership (warranty deed); Owner must currently be served by OG&E (attested to by latest electricity bill).

Please contact Raychel Swenson in our office for an application at 405-273-2833 or visit our office at 26 Father Murphy Drive, Shawnee.

CPN Legislative Districts
(The number equals the Legislative District number)

The map displays the following districts:

- District 1:** Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey.
- District 2:** West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida.
- District 3:** Texas.
- District 4:** Kansas.
- District 5:** Arizona, New Mexico.
- District 6:** California.
- District 7:** Nevada, Hawaii.
- District 8:** Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Alaska.

Legislative Districts 9-13 equal the state of Oklahoma.

Membership current as of 4-5-07

Source: T. E. Taylor
CPN, 1997

Declaration of Candidacy forms for

A Ballot Request Period will begin on

Voters who cast an absentee ballot will not be able to vote in-person in Shawnee

See MOBILE HOMES on page 11

Potawatomi Language - Bodéwadmimwen Mawjeshnowen

(Editor's note: Language Director Justin Neely recently attended a language conference. He writes about it here in Potwatomi then English.)

Jeshk neyap ngi-bya ode Bodéwadmimwen mawjeshnowen. Wenet ewabmegoyan manek neshnabek ibe. Anet bmadzejek egi papmadzewat nekmek ode Chemokman kik.

Bkan bmadzejek ga kenomagewat ode zheshmowen. Nagot oygo ngi-medagwendan kenomagewen nesh je anet nendemwnen ga kchemikwendeman. Netem Ngi-kchemedagwendan iw se gode kekyajek gagewse, Bemwetek mine Zhengos ejiptebwat mine ga kiktowat. Sydney Zanvile ga najdot gispén bkan kekyajek da wawijgewat gégo ga nebyeget iw se ga kwe kiktowat ode.

Mine ngi-medagwendan ngot pkonyak mamwe bmadzejek emawjeshnowat ga kiktowak ge ginan ode Bodéwadmimwen. Ni je ga widoktadyak ode zheshmowen. Wegni je netem ga mikchewiyak. Mamwe bmadzejek ga kedwat msenatek ke yak gode kekyajek.

Mine mamwe bmadzejek ga kedwat ge winwa ga je medagwendemwat gispén egi ajtoyak "video-conferencing" ékenomageyak. Mine manek bmadzejek ga mawjeshnowat ekiktowat megwa nekmek kche dbeket bkan zhechkewen. Ngot gégo Ni je wa je nebyegeyak ode zheshmowen. Ode jo pi gnebech neyew dgwe nebyegeyewen yajtowat. Fierro, WNALP, Traditonal, Praire Band mine combinations.

Ngot nendewen gispén bkan bodewadmi ga zhyat wiye ga je dnezet ibe Ksenyanyiek skwegen. Gnebech neyew gises anake ngot pon. Cho nkendesin Ni jetso ednezet o bemadzet anake bmadzejek. Mine ekiktowak ni je na bon zhetoyak nesap gégo. Gego zhetokék wawyeyawen mine mine mine. Manek bmadzejek ga zhyawat ibe ga mingowat gégo anet bmadzejek ga widmowat nendewen, anet bmadzewat mténo ga kedwat ga widmowat se winwa naganjek wegni je Bodéwadmi bmadzejek nedwendemwat.

Wenet ode Mawjeshnowen. Migwetch Ksenyanyiek Bodewadmik emingowat ode Mawjeshnowen. Bgeji ngisanendem egiwyan apte gishgok nesh je ekendeman gaga she ewabmegoyan gode bmadzejek mine ibe Mskodanyiek mawjeshnowen mine Bodéwadmimwen Mskominen gises 2009.

Iw enajdoyan, Zagnenibi ndezhnekas.

I just got back from the Potawatomi Language Conference. It was good to see so many Indian people there. Some of these people traveled from all over America to be there.

There were different people teaching this language. I liked each and every presentation I heard but some of them really stuck with me. First, I really liked when Billy Daniels, Jim Thunder, and Stewart King sat down and talked in the language. Sydney Vanzile asked if different elders would read something she had written and then talk for awhile about the topic.

I also enjoyed getting together one evening and talking about the language and what each of us could do to work together on the language. "What would we work on first?" Most of these people wanted to record and videotape our remaining speakers so that we would always have this available to us as a nation.

Also most of the bands wanted to start working together on using video-conferencing to both teach and meet about the language. I also enjoyed the late-night conversations here and there about different ideas to use with the language. For example, at this time perhaps four different writing systems are being use to some degree. Fierro, WNALP, Traditional, and Prairie Band combinations.

Another idea was about taking different Potawatomi people and having them live in Forest County, Wisconsin with speakers for an extended period of time. Perhaps for four months or one year. I don't know how long this person or persons would live in Forest County. We also talked about how we should stop creating the same things in different communities. Stop recreating the wheel again and again. Some of the people said they would take what they learned and share it with their leadership.

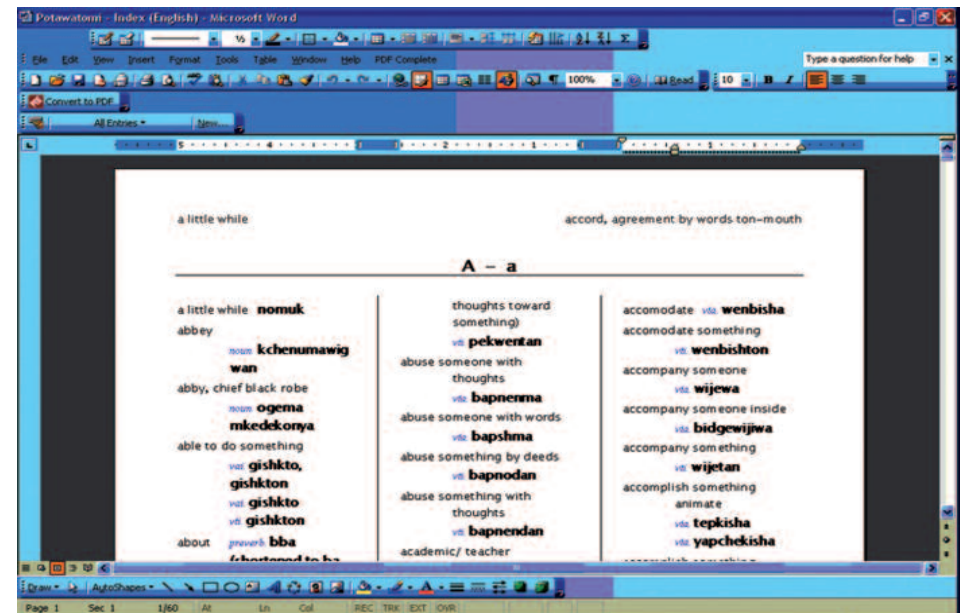
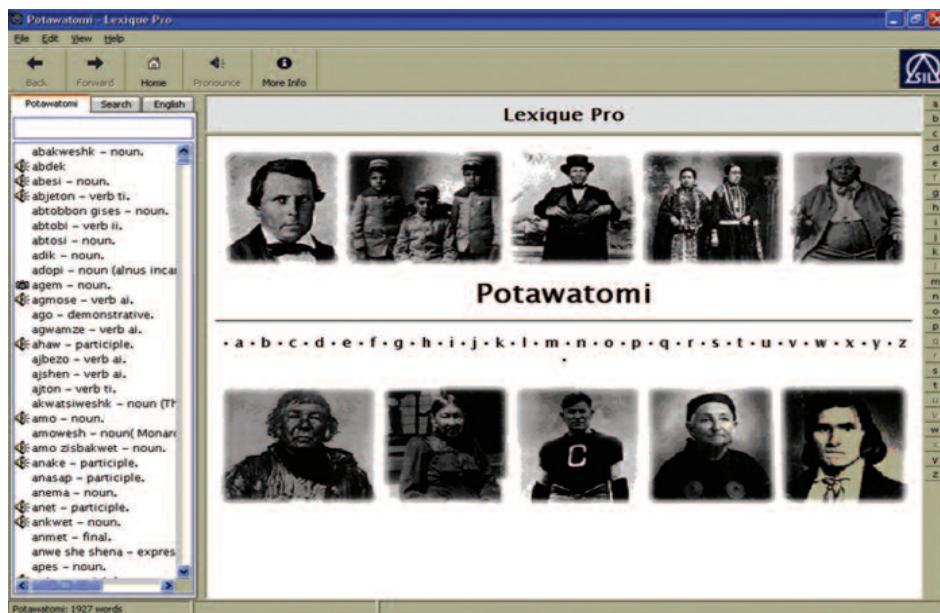
This gathering was a good event. Thank you to the Forest County Potawatomi for giving us the gathering. I was a little sad as I returned home but I know I will see these folks again over at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Gathering and Language Conference in August 2009.

That's it, Justin

We have new online Potawatomi language classes underway. They begin at 12:00 p.m. central time each Tuesday and Thursday. The one on Thursday is a new intermediate level class. Each of these classes will be brief and to the point. Most presentations will be 10 slides or less. They will be very focused, following a beginner curriculum we have developed. Everyone is welcome to attend. To join the class, just go to www.instantpresenter.com/Potawatomi3. The room should be open about 10 minutes prior to class.

Language Instruction on the Web

This searchable dictionary is available online in the resources section of our website www.potawatomi.org. First, go to "Language" then to "Resources." Many of the entries have pictures and sound. We are currently working on an updated version of this which will have close to 4,000 words. You can also export the dictionary as a document file and print it out so you can have a hard copy. Go to "File Export," were you will have the option to either





Date: _____

APPLICATION FOR FILING
Tribal Chairman

Name: Last _____ First _____ Middle _____

Address: Street _____ City _____ County _____

State _____ Zip _____ How long at current residence: _____

Phone No. _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Roll Number _____

A filing fee of one-hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) by guaranteed check (such as cashier’s or official bank check) must be received along with your filing and must be payable to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. *A copy of candidate’s current driver’s license, a copy of a current utility bill, and a copy of the prospective candidate’s tribal membership card must also accompany this filing form.*

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

I hereby declare that I am a candidate for Tribal Chairman. In support of the declaration, I submit the affidavit below.

AFFIDAVIT

Citizen Potawatomi Nation)

)

Indian Country)

SS.

The undersigned, after being duly sworn, does hereby state under oath that: 1. I am a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. 2. My date of birth is: _____ SSN _____ 3. My place of birth is: _____ 4. I am presently residing and may receive mail at the following address: Name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ County _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ Phone: _____ 5. I will have resided at the address immediately above continuously for the six months prior to the election. 6. I have never been convicted of a felony. 7. I have never been found civilly or criminally liable for a breach of fiduciary duty to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation or any other Indian Tribe. 8. I have never been impeached or recalled from office by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. 9. (Optional) I hereby specify that the following nickname may be placed on the ballot alongside my true name: _____. I affirm that I am known by that nickname, am not using it for any purpose other than accurately identifying myself and that this name is not identical or substantially similar to the name or nickname of another candidate.

Under penalty of perjury, I affirm that the information submitted on this form is true and correct.

FURTHER, AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

(Candidate’s name, typed or printed)

(Candidate’s Signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 2008.

Notary _____

My Commission Expires _____

Mail this completed form, along with the \$150.00 filing fee and supporting documents, to: CPN Election Committee, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801. Filing form and fee must be received by the Election Committee no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2009. Candidates must file by United States mail. Candidates for Tribal Chairman must be at least 35 years old upon being sworn in on June 27, 2009 and must have lived in Oklahoma for at least six months prior to the election.

Howard honored with
Hall of Fame Induction



Scotty Howard, on dobro, performs with fellow Bluegrass hall of famer Rhonda Vincent at Silver Dollar City in Branson, Missouri.

It was indeed a most eventful summer of 2008 for Scotty Howard, CPN member and Bluegrass music performer/concert promoter. The highlight was Howard’s August 29th induction into the America’s Old Time Country Music Hall of Fame. But, there were also Howard’s recoding a new album, “Oklahoma Sweetheart,” and his re-writing of the song “Ashes of Mount Augustine” for Bluegrass music legend Rhonda Vincent.

The AOTCMHOF is located within the Pioneer Music Museum in Anita, Iowa. It is a project of the Traditional Country Music Association and was founded in 1976 with a wide-ranging induction of “nearly everyone of national stature involved with traditional country, bluegrass, or old-time music.”

According to its supporters, the AOTCMHOF seeks out not only performers worthy of this distinction, but also those involved in broadcast, promotion, production, and various support ventures in the realm of traditional country, old time, and bluegrass music.

Vincent was inducted in 2006. Other members include Bill Monroe, who is widely credited as the ‘Father of Bluegrass,” Johnny Cash, the Carter Family, Hank Williams Sr., Dolly Parton, the Everly Brothers, Tex Ritter, Bob Wills, Woody Guthrie, Roy Acuff, Kitty Wells, Little Jimmy Dickens, Ernest Tubb, Grandpa Jones, Roger Miller, Roy Rogers, Dale Evans, Lonzo & Oscar, Hank Snow, Stringbean, Gene Autry, Cowboy Copas, Hank Locklin, the Louvin Brothers, and many others.

Howard’s induction plaque reads, “In accordance with the by-laws of the



National Traditional Country Music Association, Inc. and the wishes of its membership, this honor is bestowed with humility and pride, as we recognize the significant contributions made by this inductee in the preservation, promotion, and performance of traditional country music, locally, nationally, and internationally.”

Howard said that, during the summer, he heard one of Rhonda Vincent’s instrumentals and noticed that it lacked a dobro part. (The dobro is Howard’s instrument of choice.) He wrote a dobro into the song then drove to Branson, Missouri, where Vincent was performing. He requested and was granted an opportunity to discuss his addition to the song with Vincent.

Not only did she believe the addition improved the song but she also asked Howard to perform it with her at that evening’s concert. And, Howard says, she indicated that she and her band will re-record the song, with Howard’s dobro licks included.

“Oklahoma Sweetheart” contains 13 songs. Among them are the classics Roll in My Sweet Baby’s Arms, Long Black Veil, “I’ll Fly Away,” “I Overlooked an Orchid,” and “Oklahoma Sweetheart.” It can be ordered from Scotty Records, 4015 S. Dobbs, Harrah, OK 73045. Howard’s CD is also available at FireLake Gifts, located in the Nation’s Cultural Heritage Center.

Howard learned to play guitar at age eight. He has played and sung Country, Western Swing, Bluegrass, and Gospel music for more than 60 years. In addition to dobro, he plays guitar, bass, mandolin, fiddle, and banjo.

APPLICATION FOR FILING
Tribal Legislator

Date: _____

Name: Last _____ First _____ Middle _____

Address: Street _____ City _____ County _____

State _____ Zip _____ How long at current residence: _____

Phone No. _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____

Legislative district number for which you are filing (only one office): _____ Roll Number _____

A filing fee of one-hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) by guaranteed check (such as cashier’s or official bank check) must be received along with your filing and must be payable to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. *A copy of candidate’s current driver’s license, a copy of a current utility bill, and a copy of the prospective candidate’s tribal membership card must also accompany this filing form.*

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

I hereby declare that I am a candidate for Legislator for District number _____. In support of the declaration, I submit the affidavit below.

AFFIDAVIT

Citizen Potawatomi Nation)
)
Indian Country) SS.

The undersigned, after being duly sworn, does hereby state under oath that: 1. I am a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. 2. My date of birth is: _____ SSN _____ 3. My place of birth is: _____ 4. I am

presently residing and may receive mail at the following address: Name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ County _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ Phone: _____ 5. I will have resided at the address immediately above continuously for the

six months prior to the election. 6. I have never been convicted of a felony. 7. I have never been found civilly or criminally liable for a breach of fiduciary duty to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation or any other Indian Tribe. 8. I have never been impeached or recalled from office by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. 9. (Optional) I hereby specify that the following nickname may be placed on the ballot alongside my true name: _____. I affirm that I am known by that nickname, am not using it for any purpose other than accurately identifying myself and that this name is not identical or substantially similar to the name or nickname of another candidate.

Under penalty of perjury, I affirm that the information submitted on this form is true and correct.

FURTHER, AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

(Candidate’s name, typed or printed) (Candidate’s Signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 2008.

Notary _____ My Commission Expires _____

Mail this completed form, along with the \$150.00 filing fee and supporting documents, to: CPN Election Committee, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801. Filing form and fee must be received by the Election Committee no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2009. Candidates must file by United States mail. Candidates for Legislator must be at least 18 years old upon being sworn in on June 27, 2009 and must have lived in the district they would represent for at least six months prior to the election.

Attention

In the September *HowNiKan*, the Public Information Department announced availability of an audio versdion of the HowNiKan for sight-impaired CPN members and others. The Health Aid Foundation is gathering information about CPN members with such needs. If you or a realtive or freind who is a tribal member fit that category, please complete the survey below and return it to: Joyce Abel, R.N., CPN Health Aid Foundation, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

1. What is your Date of Birth? _____

2. Do you have difficulty with any of these activities?

☐ Seeing

☐ Hearing

☐ Thinking (learning, remembering, concentrating, or comprehension)

☐ Speaking

3. If an audio service was provided would –

☐ You use it

☐ It enhance the quality of your life

☐ It make you more independent

4. Would you be interested in any of the following information if it was provided in audio?

☐ Language

☐ *HowNiKan*

☐ Web site (www.Potawatomi.org)

☐ Services

☐ Tribal Government

☐ Tribal Programs

5. Do you have access to any of the following?

☐ Computer

☐ CD player

☐ DVD player

☐ Other media player

Additional comments: _____

Please complete the survey and return it to Audio HowNiKan Survey, Health Aid Foundation, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801.

Attention

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is building a directory of members’ e-mail address-es. This will allow the Nation and the CPN legislators to contact memebtrs more effi-ciently and quickly - and less expensively.

If you have an e-mail address and are willing to share it with the Nation, please invest a few minutes in e-mailing your contact information to your legislator, select-ing from the e-mail list blow, and/or send it to HowNiKan@Potawatomi.org.

This effort holds the potential of saving the Nation thousands of dollars in mailnig costs in the future while allowing the Nation to provide information quicker.

CPN Legislators’ E-mail Addresses

1. Chairman John ‘Rocky’ Barrett	Rocky@Potawatomi.org
2. Vice Chairman Linda Capps	LCapps@Potawatomi.org
3. Secretary-Treasurer D. Wayne Trousdale	DTrousdale@Potawatomi.org
4. Dist. #1 Rep. Roy Slavin	RSlavin@Potawatomi.org
5. Dist. #2 Rep. Eva Marie Carney	ECarney@Potawatomi.org
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10. Dist. #7 Rep. Thom Finks	TFinks@Potawatomi.org
11. Dist. #8 (Vacant until June 27 election)	
12. Dist. #9 Rep. Paul Wesselhoft	PWesselhoft@Potawatomi.org
13. Dist. #10 Rep. David Barrett	DBarrett@Potawatomi.org
14. Dist. #11 Rep. Lisa Kraft	LKraft@Potawatomi.org
15. Dist. #12 Rep. Paul Schmidlkofer	PSchmidlkofer@Potawatomi.org
16. Dist. #13 Rep. Bobbie Bowden	BBowden@Potawatomi.org

CPN Kansas Services Day

Friday, November 14 & Saturday, November 15, 2008
2:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Friday - 8:00 am to 2:00 P.M. on Saturday

CPN Clinic personnel will be on hand to administer free flu shots and perform health checks. Newly named Clinic Director Dr. Cory Spurlock and Pharmacy Coordinator Joe LaReau will be present to provide information about and answer questions concerning the Nation’s free prescription medication-by-mail program for tribal members who are 63 and older.

Meet Dr. Cory Spurlock, the new CPN clinic director and a CPN member. Clinic personnel will administer free flu shots for adults. They will offer blood pressure checks and information about audiology services at the clinic in Shawnee, along with information on Medicare and the Mail Order Pharmacy Service.

On hand, in addition to Dr. Spurlock and Pharmacy Coordinator Joe LaReau will be Vickie Canfield, RHIT, HIM/QA Manager, and Janet Bryce, R.N., Public Health Coordinator.

This event will be held at: the CPN Community Center, 806 Nishnabe Trail, Rossville, KS 66533, Phone number: 785-584-6401.

Prepare for CPN Elections in 2009

In 2009, CPN members will elect a Tribal Chairman and Legislative Representatives in District nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, & 8. As voters, members MUST learn all they can about the candidates. Then, they MUST cast an informed ballot either in person on June 27, 2009 or by absentee ballot.

FireLake Golf Course

New greens have FireLake Golf Course looking and playing better than ever. Call 275-4471 to reserve tee times. Read the November *HowNiKan* for details of the course improvements.

Hundreds attend Battle With Bob Barbecue

by Lori Goat - Tecumseh Countywide / Shawnee Sun

"There are risks your whole life," he said. "This is a risk worth taking because you love something. You have to have a goal, and it has to be worthy of your hard work. Otherwise, you'd give up; it would be too hard to get there. It's about being passionate about your goal." - Bob Trousdale, in the April 5, 2007 edition of the Tecumseh Countywide News.

CPN member Bob Trousdale and his wife Cheri, are facing a challenge much more daunting now than making their Maverick Hotel successful. In fact, it is the most challenging goal of their lives - winning the fight against cancer.

On August 26, the Tecumseh entrepreneur and director of the CPN Job Pride Department was diagnosed with esophageal cancer, a cancer that begins in the inner layer of the esophagus, the 10-inch tube that connects the throat and stomach.

In early August, Trousdale noticed he was having an inexplicable problem swallowing. On August 19, his physician found a suspicious spot at the base of his esophagus. A biopsy confirmed it was a stage three malignant tumor.

Statistically, 80 percent of people with esophageal cancer are diagnosed in the advanced stages of the disease because the symptoms, like problems swallowing, don't show until the cancer is advanced.

But, due to Trousdale's keen observance of the workings of his body and his willingness to see a doctor at the first sign of trouble, the cancer hasn't spread to other



The Trousdale family posed for a portrait before Bob and Cherie departed for Houston for Bob's treatment. Back row, from left, are daughter Amanda Oakes, son-in-law Jason Oakes, and daughter B.J. Trousdale (a CPN employee). Seated from left are granddaughter Damaris Oakes, Cherie, Bob, granddaughter Stella Oakes, and grandson Trae Trousdale.

parts of his body.

Trousdale's physician referred him to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. Bob and Cherie traveled south the first week of September.

Dr. Jaffer Ajani, the head of the esophageal cancer unit, recommended that Trousdale begin five and a half weeks of simultaneous daily chemotherapy and radiation, followed by an esophagectomy.

Ajani told the Trousdales that with aggressive treatment and surgery the cancer could possibly be cured.

Because of the rarity of esophageal cancer, coupled with the location of the tumor near the heart, Ajani told the Trousdales it would be better for them to relocate to Houston for treatment. The Trousdales left for Texas again on September 20.

The Trousdales' daughters, Amanda Oakes and B.J. Trousdale, are helping hold down the fort at home, running the downtown Tecumseh Maverick Hotel for their parents. Amanda has also set up a Web site through the hospital where messages can be left for the Trousdales to read. Daily updates of Trousdale's treatment are avail-

able on the Web site, too.

To access the website, go to www.caringbridge.org. Click on "Visit" in the upper left hand corner of the page. On the "Visit" page, type in bobtrousdale in the caringbridge site box. More than 2,280 visitors had accessed Trousdale's Web site by mid-afternoon on October 7.

The Trousdales can also be contacted by mail at 4848 Pin Oak Park Drive, Houston, Texas 77081.

Friends of the Trousdales hosted a Battle with Bob Barbeque on Sunday, October 5 at Tecumseh City Hall. Computers were set up to send messages to his electronic notebook. "We also worked out a live video chat with Bob," Aaron O'Rorke said.

In Bob's journal on the hospital Web site, daughter Amanda Oakes wrote, "The best medicine for him right now is people and he got a BIG dose of that (through the Battle Cancer with Bob Barbecue). Many of Dad's dear friends attended.

"Our family was so astonished with the turnout and overwhelmed with everyone's love and support of us. We had a live feed from Houston over computer where people could sit down and talk to mom and dad.

Many people were worried that it would tire dad out talking to so many people, but (as I suspected) it did the opposite. People and relationships energize him. He draws so much strength from all of you! Dad said 'There is no place like home, thank you for bringing home to us.'"

Sharon Stewart, wife of Trousdale's old friend, Bob Stewart, wrote in an e-mail, "Bob's spirits are good and his expectations great ... both Bob and Cherie would love to hear from you."

Listen to
"The Native
American Speaks"
on
KGFF-AM (1450)
or
KOKC-AM (1520)
on Sunday mornings
or on
www.Potawatomi.org

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October's Artist - Dianna Williams/acrylic artist

Artist Dianna Williams is a true inspiration. A member of the Wilmette family, Dianna calls the mountains in LeFlore, OK home. Perched in a tiny cabin in Southeastern Oklahoma, Dianna enjoys each new day with the barest of necessities. With no running water, no electricity, and the use of a wood burning stove, Dianna's choice of lifestyle is far beyond modest. After Dianna's mother fell terminally ill this past February, Dianna picked up a paint brush for the very first time, and discovered a new talent that revealed itself through a painful season. Here are a few excerpts from Dianna's interview:

HowNiKan: What type(s) of art do you create?

Dianna Williams: Acrylic painting, sewing, rag dolls, quilts, stained glass, and woodcarving.

HNK: How long have you practiced this medium?

DW: Acrylic painting only seven months, others over 15 years.

HNK: Why did you pick this type of art? Were you inspired? Who and/or what inspired you?

DW: Availability - art and nature, life itself is such an inspiration. Indian flute music seems to add visionary action to my canvases - all nature and other artist are my inspiration - my mother's love for art.

HNK: What inspiration do you draw from your Potawatomi heritage?

DW: Viewing my Wilmette family CD, stories that have been told to me and basically watching family elders, and listening to new information. I think I will keep drawing from all of these and hold fast to perseverance which keeps us growing. It can't be only one person, place, or thing, but us as a whole.

HNK: How do you hope to benefit from participating in the CPN Artist Project? How do you think the Nation will benefit?

DW: I want to know more and release the knowledge in art form in whatever shape it takes. I feel it is just developing. I pray our Nation will be portrayed justly and one day benefit from me too as I benefit from them.



Dianna's work is currently on display in the gift shop, here are pictures of her work:

"Sunset Dancer" 22x28 (At left)

"Mountain River Bison" 16x20 (Above)

"Solitude Peace" 16x20 (At right)



Dianna's work is available for purchase through November 30th, please contact the gift shop for more information.

Note: I really hope these articles are encouraging all of us to take a step back, and really evaluate ourselves. We are each given a gift, it is taking the moment to realize what we are given, and how we can help ourselves and others benefit from it. I am not looking for the next Picasso, or well-seasoned artist, although they are welcomed too, I want to know what art has done for you. I have been overwhelmed with the response from the first article, and thank each of you for all the kind responses. We still want to hear from those who have not been added to the data base of artists, and we are in the works of developing a possible newsletter, and are still working the kinks out of the consignment project. Look for more info in the next article. Thank you all for your comments, and again, I welcome all thoughts and feedback!

Bama Pi,
Brandee Smith, Manager, FireLake Gifts

CPN member speaks to Louisiana students



CPN member Anthony Cole shows students the Potawatomi route down the St. Lawrence to the Great Lakes region.

On September 29, 2008, CPN member Anthony Cole visited with the students of Lynn Oaks School in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, to speak with them about his pride in being Potawatomi. Mrs. Mangerchine's seventh-grade class had been learning about various Indian tribes and had many questions that were not covered in their history books. Cole was invited to share his heritage and background with the students so that they could benefit from meeting with and asking questions of a Native American.

The students asked a variety of questions about the history and development of the tribe, as well as questions about growing up as a Native American. They wanted to know about the Trail of Death, the Potawatomi language, and cultural ceremonies, such as naming ceremonies.

After the class, the students wrote Cole thank you notes. One note said, "I think it's pretty cool I know a cool guy from a Native American Tribe."

Cole is proud to have been able to represent his tribe at this event and to have had the chance to educate the students at Lynn Oaks School.

Visit the
Cultural Heritage Center
1899 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801
Call 878-5830
for hours of operation

CPN member Jason O'Neal honored

Lighthorse Chief named Police Chief of the Year

ADA, Oklahoma - Jason O'Neal, Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Police Chief, was recognized for his pioneering work in cooperative law enforcement as he was awarded Chief of Police of the Year. O'Neal received the award Oct. 8 at the national conference of the National Native American Law Enforcement Association (NNALEA) in Las Vegas.

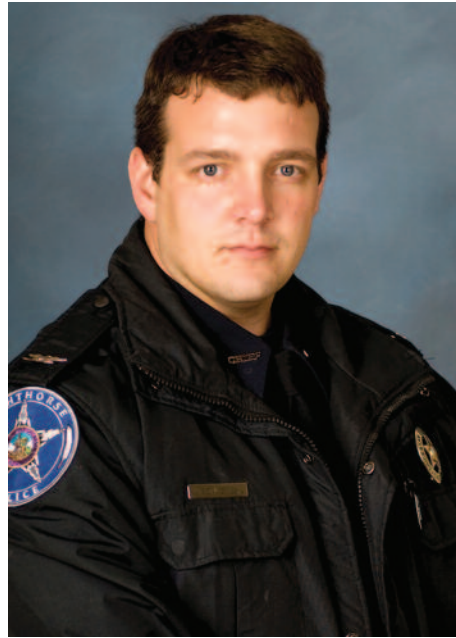
Cooperation between American Indian Law Enforcement offices, agents, personnel, their agencies, tribes, private industry and the general public is the mission of the NNALEA, and O'Neal and the Lighthorse Police Department work toward this goal on a daily basis. "Cooperative law enforcement has been our focus," O'Neal said.

O'Neal, 32, has served at the helm of the Lighthorse Police Department since the department was established in 2004. He has spearheaded cross-deputation efforts throughout the state and nation, including inking a cross deputation agreement in 2007 with the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics (OBN). This agreement is the first of its kind between an American Indian police department and a state law enforcement agency. "There is probably no police agency in the state of Oklahoma, bar none, that is better run than this group of Lighthorse policemen," OBN Director R. Darrell Weaver, said.

Under O'Neal's leadership, Lighthorse Police has also signed agreements with more than 30 city, county and state agencies. Several officers are also commissioned as federal officers. The goal of these agreements is to eliminate jurisdictional uncertainties which can benefit criminals. "Thanks to Chief O'Neal's vision and tireless work, the Lighthorse Police Department is one of the most respected and proactive law enforcement agencies in the state," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. "We appreciate Jason's efforts and congratulate him on the prestigious award."

Under O'Neal's direction, the department currently has 31 employees, including 16 uniformed officers, five dispatchers, four investigators, two sergeants, a captain, an administrative assistant and an assistant chief.

"It is certainly an honor I was not expecting," Chief O'Neal said of the award. "The award is definitely a hum-



Jason O'Neal

bling experience. The position of Police Chief is one I take as a personal responsibility to ensure the protection of our families and communities."

"By bringing together our law enforcement agencies and community leaders we ready ourselves for the next generation of policing and public safety. To receive this incredible award has been a very humbling experience."

During his law enforcement career, O'Neal has served as a Military Police Canine Handler in the United States Marine Corps and spent six years with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs office of law enforcement services in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Arizona and Oklahoma as a federal police officer and police supervisor.

During the past 13 years, O'Neal has received advanced training in a wide-range of areas, from hostage situation to hate crime training to national wildfire investigation training.

He is a member of the Citizen Pottawatomie tribe, and also a member of the Oklahoma District Attorney's Council-Violence Against Women Grant Board, the National Native American Law Enforcement Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Oklahoma Sheriff's and Peace Officer's Association, and he is an

Oklahoma gubernatorial appointee to the state's Council on Law Enforcement Education. He and his wife reside in Ada and are parents of four children; two boys and two girls.

Lighthorse Police Department initially assumed the role of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) police department, which, at the time, consisted of four officers who covered more than 7,648 square miles within the Chickasaw Nation. Lighthorse Police Headquarters is located at 1130 West Main in Ada. More information is available about Lighthorse Police at www.chickasaw.net.

The National Native American Law Enforcement Association is a non-profit organization founded in 1993 in Washington, D.C. and incorporated under the state of Delaware.

Mobile Homes, con't. from page 4

the home is located.

There will be a limited number of FEMA mobile homes available through this program. Applications are available for this temporary program at the CPNHA office. Applicants for this program are selected by application date. Only completed applications with all required documents will be accepted. Applicants will also be required to apply with Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Office of Environmental Health for water and sanitation services. If you are interested in this program, please contact the CPNHA office at 405-273-2833.

SPACES ARE LIMITED.

Walking On, con't. from page 3
in Asher, Oklahoma.

Don was a past member of the Elks Lodge and a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He retired from Western Electric and enjoyed fishing, cooking, and spending time with family members and friends. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Survivors include his daughters, Renee Suwanski and her husband Jerry of Bartlett, Illinois and Darlene Dake of Parkville, Missouri; a brother, Bob Upton and his wife Judy of Dewey, Oklahoma; a sister, Pamela Yort of Shawnee, Oklahoma; sisters-in-law Bobbie Upton of Seminole, Oklahoma and Rosalie Upton of Oklahoma City; brother-in-law Carlos Lane of Norman, Oklahoma; two grandchildren, Michael Dake and Clarissa Gibson; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Clyde, Clifford, and Bill; and his sisters, Evelyn and Bernice.

His memorial service was held at 10:00 a.m. on May 20, 2008 at the Bill Merritt Funeral Service Memorial Chapel in Oklahoma City.

CPN Office of Environmental Health Water/Septic System Assistance

**Water and sewer system installation
for Native Americans**

Call OEH for at 405-878-4672

Requirements....

- 1. CDIB card indicating affiliation with a federally recognized tribe**
- 2. Copy of a Warranty Deed**
- 3. A Photo ID**
- 4. Residence in Pottawatomie, Cleveland, Lincoln, Oklahoma, or Logan county**

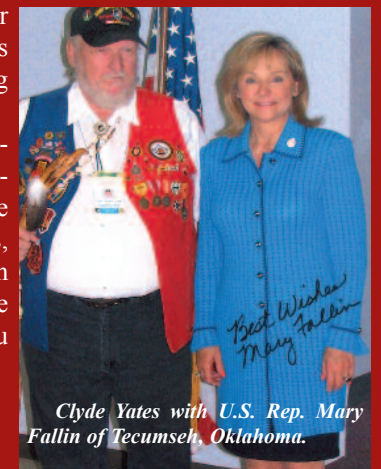
Attention

CPN Veterans, I am Clyde Yates, a CPN member and Viet Nam veteran. I have trained as a Veterans Services Officer through the VFW, with the training done by certified VA services officers.

If you need any help with your service-connected VA disability claim, please call me at 405-275-3121. Tell the receptionist that you need assistance with a VA claim and need to contact Clyde Yates, service officer. I will return your call and set up an appointment. I will need your name and telephone number. I look forward to talking to each one of you and helping CPN veterans.

Clyde Yates

A.S.A. 1967-1971 - Viet Nam 1968-1969



Clyde Yates with U.S. Rep. Mary Fallin of Tecumseh, Oklahoma.



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

How to Control Your Money

We all have a choice - control our money or it will control our lives. To control money, we need a simple plan, a basic understanding of money, to know where our money is going, and to decide what we want to do with our money. A great way to make this easy and relieve stress is to not worry, argue, or even think about money all week - instead set aside one hour each week to sit down and handle your finances (if you are married, do it with your spouse). You handle everything in your hour, and there is nothing else you need to do! If it takes more than one hour the first few times, you are normal - don't worry it gets easier!

Use the tools explained below to control your money.

1. Calendar: Use a calendar to write when money is coming in (pay, retirement, etc.) by date, and write when to mail bill payments by date. Mail payments at least one week before the actual due date to avoid late fees.

2. Tracking Sheet: Use a tracking sheet to write where and for what money is spent. Write down all cash spent by the category in which it is spent. (When using a check, write in your checkbook how money was spent.) Keep your tracking sheet at home, in your car, or in your wallet - keep it where you will use it. It may be easier to use it daily than to try to remember what to write later.

3. Spending Plan (Budget): Use a spending plan (budget), to decide and list where to spend money. Plan for expenses that do not occur each month by taking the yearly cost and dividing by twelve months, then list it on your monthly spending plan. Multiply weekly expenses by 4-1/2 for a monthly amount to list in your spending plan. To plan amounts you can spend, only count on the least amount of money you will have for the month. At the beginning of the month, use the first column to write planned spending. Once a week, list in a column what you really spent using the amounts on the tracking sheet and in the checkbook. At the end of the month, subtract the amounts spent from the amount planned. A difference is normal - seeing it helps make planning decisions.

4. Savings Account Ledger: Use a savings account for four areas and include amounts to save in your spending plan: A) Set aside money each month for planned expenses like car tags and clothes. For example, to plan \$300.00 per year for car maintenance, divide by twelve: plan to save \$25.00 per month. B) Save money for emergencies. Set an initial goal of one month's income and then build from that point (three to six months recommended). C) Save money for goals: a new car, a house, a vacation, or college. D) Save money to make long term investments for the future. *Transfer the money from checking to savings every month.

5. Goals: Because you are controlling your money, decide what you want to accomplish. This will help with your decision making and motivation..

Enjoy the freedom controlling your money will provide!



Boost Your Credit Score with a Credit-Builder Loan!

The Credit-Builder Loan is designed to add an active line of good credit to dramatically improve a credit score for Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members nationwide who need to establish or reestablish good credit. Loan Applications can be obtained from the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation (CPCDC). \$200-\$1,000 loans are available for terms from 12-18 months. Call 800-880-9880 or 405-878-4697 for more information.



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

A CPCDC Success

Maverick Hotel Stands Out in Tecumseh

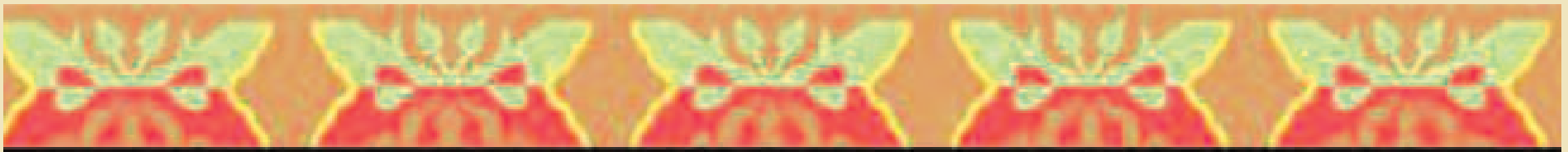


The next time you're in Tecumseh, Oklahoma, take a drive down Broadway Street and keep your eyes open for the new Maverick Hotel. Located on the original 1898 site of the Maverick Saloon, this boutique hotel has undergone extensive renovation under the watchful eyes of new owners Bob and Cherie Trousdale. The Maverick Hotel brings spacious and stylish accommodations and the feel of the big city to the small town.

Bob and Cherie addressed several challenges as they began moving their business idea from conception to reality. The first challenge was physical, including managing the design, demolition, and renovation of the new facility. The second and greatest challenge was identifying financing for the project. After acquiring a construction loan, unexpected overruns occurred. Due to the rising cost of materials and labor and the decision to add safety features such as a sprinkler system, another loan was acquired at a local bank. Bob and Cherie found the available interest rates less than desirable and began to research other financing opportunities.

Bob and Cherie learned about the award-winning Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation in

See MAVERICK HOTEL on page 22



Trail of Death Commemorative Caravan

In late September, CPN Cultural Heritage Center Director Jon Boursaw and the Tribal Heritage Project's Leslie Gee traveled to Indiana to attend an annual event hosted by the Fulton County Historical Society called the "Trail of Courage Festival." Afterward, they joined a caravan that retraced the route of the 1838 Potawatomi Trail of Death.

The trip concluded research and script development for a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to produce a video documentary, "Journey to Oklahoma." The documentary will examine the tribe's migration from the Great Lakes region all the way to Indian Territory. The 1838 Potawatomi Trail of Death is one of the major areas of interest to be covered in the documentary.

The Potawatomi of Chief Menominee's band endured one of the worst atrocities in American history. Rounded up under false pretenses on September 4, 1838, they were surrounded and imprisoned. After their houses were burnt to the ground, they were forced at gunpoint to march 660 miles to a new reserve in Kansas.

The Trail of Death is one of the best-documented removals of this kind. In addition to the notes taken by the government scribe, the Potawatomi's young priest, Father Benjamin Petit, traveled with them on the trail. Fr. Petit kept a detailed journal along the way, before he too died not long after the Potawatomis' arrival in Kansas.

Prior to departing on the Trail of Death Caravan in late September, Leslie Gee and I had the opportunity to attend the Trail of Courage Festival just outside Rochester, Indiana. The Festival, founded in 1976 as a Boy Scout Bicentennial Project, is hosted by the Fulton County Historical Society.

Each year, a Potawatomi family with an ancestor on the Trail of Death is honored at the festival. This year, the Burnett family was honored. Tracy Locke and daughter Erin of Lafayette, Indiana represented the Burnetts. Erin received a plaque and key to the city of Rochester from Mayor Mark Smiley.

More than 12,000 people attended the two-day event, which featured fur trade reenactors, a Royal Highlanders Pipe and Drum unit, musket-firing, early settler vendors, food vendors with food prepared over open fires, and many others in period costumes, with exhibits and demonstrations.

We had the opportunity to capture a great deal of the event on video and in pictures, including a canoe ride down the Tippecanoe River with two fur trappers to obtain some close-up video. We also had the pleasure of talking with and interviewing two very interesting individuals. The first is Tom Bowes, PhD, who is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Eastern Kentucky. Dr. Bowes has been contracted by the National Museum of the American Indian to assist in the development of an exhibit that tells the story of the Potawatomi Trail of Death. The other individual we interviewed is John McMullen from Vincennes, Indiana who is the author of the book "The Last Black Robe of Indiana and the Potawatomi Trail of Death."

Jon Boursaw,
Director, CPN Cultural Heritage Center

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center/ FireLake Gifts



This is the group who enjoyed the 2008 Trail of Death Caravan.

The caravan began Monday morning at Chief Menominee's monument near Twin Lakes, southwest of Plymouth, Indiana, where his village once stood. There, we were greeted by members of the local community, who came out to show their support.

Chippeway lies at the intersection of the Tippecanoe River and the old Michigan Road. This is where those on the Trail of Death camped for the first night, after traveling 21 miles at gunpoint along roads choked with dust. That night, 20 Potawatomis escaped, taking with them two of the 286 horses. Fifty-one Potawatomis were left here, too sick to travel.

At **Rochester, Indiana**, it is said, the sad party of Potawatomi who marched through town was a mile long. They were given food by sympathetic settlers. That night, the emigration camped at Mud Creek, a small lonely creek with very little water to offer. A baby was born, and the first child died. The average distance between camps was about 15 miles, that distance being covered daily.

Upon leaving Mud Creek, however, the Potawatomis were forced to travel 22 miles to Logansport. By the time they reached it, more than 300 Potawatomis were sick. Four children died, and Father Benjamin Petit conducted Mass.

Continuing on, the march followed the Wabash River to Winnemac's Old Village, where 21 sick were left behind. There, a child and a man died.

The trail continued along the Wabash River, meandering through what are now

Georgetown and Pittsburg, where we stopped at Burnett's Arches, named for the family of the well-known Potawatomi Chief, Abraham Burnett. The arches were built to allow the Wabash-Erie Canal to cross Burnett's Creek. Basic supplies were hauled to and from the area on the canal boats of the 1800s.

The Tippecanoe battlefield was another encampment site. There, CPN tribal member Tom Hamilton and his family have provided funds for the rock monument and plaque erected in memory of the Trail of Death, where in September of 1838, the very old mother of We-wiss-sa died.

The support offered to Commemorative Caravan members along the way was astounding. The National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture Inc., hosted a dinner of traditional foods in Lafayette, Indiana.

The next day, the caravan continued on to pay respects to markers erected at Independence, Williamsport, and Gopher Hill, where 170 Years earlier, the Potawatomis on the trail suffered beyond imagination. The number who were ill with what were most probably malaria and typhoid was 106, and the sick wagons were becoming crowded.

The ribbon-like creek that runs near the Gopher Hill cemetery was probably the muddy creek referred to in Father Petit's journal, where they camped by a filthy stream near the Indiana-Illinois state line

See TRAIL OF DEATH on page 23

District #1 - Roy Slavin

Bozho Nikan,

The Trail of Death Commemorative Caravan began September 22, for the 170th anniversary of the Trail of Death. My wife Julia and I joined the caravan in Quincy, Illinois, where our family dedicated a marker several years ago in honor of our great-grandmother, Theresa.

Our hosts in Quincy, Steve and Janet Tieken, very graciously arranged a dinner for the caravan and accommodations. Steve then accompanied us on the trail to Moberly, Missouri. We owe them a great debt of thanks as we do all the people who met and helped us along the way. I would like to think our ancestors were accorded the same respect and treatment we received.

I would also like to thank Shirley and Bill Willard and George and Patricia Godfrey for their dedication to the continuation of this project.

We discovered early last spring that the Trail of Death marker at Independence, Missouri had been destroyed. It was originally placed there by Mathew Moreno as an Eagle Scout project in 1993. When John Moreno, Mathew's father, found the marker had been destroyed, he again stepped up. His grandson Jason King replaced the marker with an exact duplicate of the original, also as an Eagle Scout project.

Again, I want to thank John Moreno, Heart of America Council, Blue Elk District, St. Mary's Boy Scout Troop 221 for all their great work. I also want to thank Ray Hill of radio station KMZU-FM (100.7) for their coverage of the caravan as it passed through their area.

I recently received a letter from a lady because she saw one of the legislative committees I am on is Elder Care. Her words: "I was just wondering if you think there may ever be a nursing home-type place for the elderly who are Potawatomi. It sure seems like a much-needed thing to me. I am now living in a nursing home but the prices are so very high that one is constantly nervous their money is going to run out now that folks seem to live longer than in the past."

This lady is 96 years of age, Sadly I had to tell her our nation at present does not have any sort of assisted-living facility.

At one time, the Nation did a feasibility study on this. The concerns at that time



were the cost of constructing and operating such a facility. This was in 2003. I believe it is time we revisit this subject. According to national statistics, .004% of the population requires some sort of assisted living. Applying this figure to the Nations population does not leave us with an overwhelming number that would require an assisted-living facility.

Given the present state of the economy and the fact that real estate is lower than it has been in many years, perhaps the Nation could find a building in the Shawnee area that could be rehabbed to fit our needs. If you feel as strongly about this as I do, I would like to hear from you with your suggestions, concerns, or other ideas. After all, aren't our elders our most important and valued asset?

Again, the only way I have of contacting you, the members of District #1, is through the *HowNiKan*. Articles submitted to the *HowNiKan* are usually submitted by the 10th of the month and you the reader do not receive that *HowNiKan* until late that month. By then, that news is one-month old.

If you would like to have more direct contact, please send me your contact information – e-mail and direct mail addresses and telephone number. My address is Roy Slavin, 6730 Tower Dr., Kansas City, MO. My e-mail address is RSlavin@potawatomi.org. My toll-free telephone number is 888-741-5767.

Migwetch.

Roy Slavin

Legislator, District #1

District #2 - Eva Marie Carney

Hello, Fellow CPN District #2 Citizens,

I have been reading the book *Rebuilding Native Nations*, which was published by The University of Arizona Press last year. It gives good insights into the importance of self-governance and effective leadership. I recommend it to you. Chairman Barrett arranged for each of the legislators to have our own copy, so you might call it our "assigned reading."

It provides interesting case studies of Native Nations – the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is among those featured – that have rebuilt themselves after years of federal government interference and oppression, adopting their own constitutions and laws by which to govern themselves, building sustainable economies, and reinvigorating their cultures. If the topic sounds at all intriguing, please find a copy and read it – your public library may have it, and if not, may be willing to order it if asked. I'm also willing to lend out my copy once I've finished reading it – just ask and I can get it to you.

There are some interesting Native events coming up for those of you who live in or plan to travel to the Baltimore-Washington, D.C. area in the next few months. I'm telling you about them now so you have a chance to plan ahead. With this "lead time," I hope to see fellow Potawatomis at one or the other.

First off, what is being billed as a "blockbuster" exhibition and the largest ever retrospective of Native artist Fritz Scholder's work opens at the National Museum of the American Indian in both Washington, D.C. and New York City on Saturday, November 1, 2008. If you are so inclined, please go online to www.AmericanIndian.si.edu and look for information on the exhibit. Then click on the bookshop link to find the accompanying book, Fritz Scholder, *Indian/Not Indian*.

The exhibit (and the book) features many of the artist's paintings, sculptures, and photographs, bills Scholder as the most influential, successful, and controversial Native artist of the last century, and explores his varied influences.

As Kevin Gover, the current Director of the Museum, relates in his Foreword to the book: "Understanding these influences is of more than passing academic and social interest. The life of one of the most impor-



tant figures in modern art and Indian art poses questions to current practitioners, students, and collectors of work by Native artists: What is Indian art? Who is an Indian artist? Is it an Indian who is an artist, regardless of medium or subject matter? To what extent must a person have lived an 'Indian life' to be an Indian artist? What of the non-Indian who employs traditional Indian styles or treats Indian subjects?

"No single artist and no single life and career can resolve these issues for all times and circumstances, but Scholder and his art certainly present an important context for examining these questions."

I expect I'll be there on opening weekend to see for myself Scholder's "myth-shattering depictions of the realities of Native American life."

Another Smithsonian don't-miss event is the NMAI Art Market in both Washington, D.C. and New York City on the weekend of December 6 and 7, 2--8. Last year, the Potawatomis were well-represented. Pahnopone, a prize-winning potter who is Kickapoo/Potawatomi, was selling her luminous pots. I was lucky enough to talk with her for a bit and to find one of her small, more affordable pots for myself.

The great attraction of the NMAI Art Market for me is the chance to visit with the artists and ask them questions about their concepts and techniques for making their art. It's also a fun atmosphere, as the artists seem to be having a grand old time razzing their family members, who are

exhibiting side-by-side with them, and reuniting with admirers and friends who come to the Market to visit.

Speaking of elections, because of the need to stagger legislative terms, I hold this office for just a year. This means that I've already served half my elected term. I am up for re-election in June, and want to earn your vote by that time. But I can only be responsive to your concerns if you share them with me. And I can only reach out to you if you write, call, or e-mail me to tell me who you are. Because I do not have a list of all citizens in our District, I am relying on you to come to me.

As I've said before, my final note in each column will remain the same as long as I'm your representative – please, let me hear from you! If you send me your e-mail address, you'll get back from me an elec-

tronic copy of the *HowNiKan* when I get the electronic copy from the editor, Michael Dodson - before it arrives in print at your homes. I also will send updates on legislative issues and short surveys to gather your thoughts, when appropriate.

Please e-mail me with your contact details today – ecarney@potawatomi.org. If you don't have email and want to visit about an issue or have a question or idea, please call me on the CPN 800 number or call my Legislative Office directly at 202-347-4424 (I will have a toll-free office number in the near future). I will return your e-mail or call promptly.

Thank you for the honor of representing you.

Megwetch,
Eva Marie Carney/Ojindiskwe
Legislator, District #2

District #3 - Robert Whistler

Bozho,

Over the last couple of months, several of us have included comments about regalia, traditions, culture or language and the naming ceremony. Each of these areas, which you may personally get involved in, will ultimately be part of the legacy you may desire to pass on to your future family members and Citizen Potawatomi Nation relatives.

During the last month, I have had the privilege to look at some legacy sites created by Ken Power in memory of his mother, Marcie Moore, and aunt, Carole Moore. These sites are a wonderful record of the legacy of the Darling (Moore) family.

Here are the URLs for access so you can see how Ken put them together: www.nutrition-specifics.com/downloads/darlingfamily.pdf and www.nutrition-specifics.com/downloads/moorepictures.pdf.

The legacy record you leave can be a simple letter to your family or a full-blown legal document covering that area along with your wishes and an in-depth family record. For those of you who could use a template to create a complete set of legal and personal documents of your family record, Jean Chatzy with the Ft. Worth Star-Telegram newspaper recently advised that Colgan offers a free guide on creating your family legacy. The URL for that is: <http://www.planyourlegacy.com/getstarted>. There is a free guide portion that you may choose to give you the boilerplate to design a formal personal private docu-

ment.

I prefer to design my own, and have begun recording some of the information that I want passed on to my future generations. For example, October 2007, March 29, 2008 and April 26, 2008 are dates that will play an important role in the legacy record I leave behind. In October 2007, I chose to file to be the first legislator for District #3. On March 29, 2008, I was fortunate in being given the opportunity and honor to be your first elected legislator in this district.

Last month, Rep. Bobbie Bowden wrote about the tradition involving the naming ceremony. This reminded me that on April 26, 2008, I was given my Native American name along with four or five of the other just-elected first legislators for the newly created CPN districts. You'll note that I am using a photo of that significant event for this month's column.

Our Cultural Heritage Center was designed to be the repository for this information. Please start recording information that you feel is significant and should be written down now while it is fresh in your memory.

Regalia is another item that surfaces over and over. As Rep. Paul Schmidtkofer mentioned last month, there was a vendor at our last family reunion festival making ribbon shirts on-site and selling them for \$25.00. Reps. Theresa Adame, Lisa Kraft, Ron Goyer, and I have each mentioned that there are minimum traditional regalia

requirements for participating in the dance arena. For males it is a sash and for females a shawl.

I have gone onto e-Bay and found that shawls can be purchased for around \$65.00. I have also seen shawls at our gift shop in the \$60.00-\$90.00 range. Please contact Mrs. Brandee Smith, FireLake Gifts manager, to see what she has for sale. Her e-mail address is: BNSmith@Potwataomi.org. Or just call 800-880-9800 and ask them to connect you to her at the gift shop.

There are several online sites that you can visit to find regalia to buy, ready-made, or purchased with parts and custom-fit. www.crazycrow.com is one site that is both a wholesale and retail supplier. If they have something you like, call Brandee Smith and see if she can order it for you at the same price. Why not support your own gift shop? Another site is www.NOCBay.com. They are full retail, so, if they have what you need, order direct from them. Then of course, there is e-Bay which you can go onto and do a search - such as regalia, then drill down to shawl or whatever you want.

If you can sew or have a contact who does, I suggest you go to a fabric shop and buy a pattern and pick out the fabric of your choice, just as I did for one of my ribbon shirts. Simplicity pattern 5446 (a pirate shirt) can be modified into a ribbon shirt. Simplicity pattern 7015 can be used for a woman's dress. Both patterns offer great latitude in fabric selection.

At this point, I want to digress back to naming. So far, Districts Nos. 1, 2, and 4 have held naming ceremonies. In District #3, I have had two inquiries about putting a naming ceremony together. Once, we decide upon dates and locations, I need to get that information out to you quickly! The most economical way is by e-mail. At the moment, our primary contact for all but 10 or so of you in District #3 is via U.S. mail; that is very time-consuming and expensive. So I ask again, please send me your name and e-mail address, so that I can send you notices and information quickly. Moreover, you can receive my monthly editorial two weeks earlier.

I would like to host an open house at our new Texas office in Bedford, and sending an e-mail notification had been my plan. However, any notification at this point would be a disservice to those of you in District #3 whose e-mail addresses I just



don't have. So everyone, you can see how important this information is to us.

Our list will not be sold or given out. It will be used for one purpose - to contact you about CPN business, events, and notices.

For your information there is a major Dallas/Ft. Worth Native American Chamber of Commerce event on December 2, 2008. Registration for dinner and attendance is requested to be accomplished by November 19, 2008.

By registering by the deadline you will receive two extra door prize tickets and a free admission pass to Billy Bob's in Ft. Worth to be used November 30 through December 4, 2008. There is normally a hefty cover charge to get into Billy Bob's.

This Expo will include sharing of information on: Tribal Enrollment, Housing, Health Information/Benefits, Education, Social Services, and Cultural and Language Programs.

There will be corporate booths, vendor booths, and photos with tribal chiefs.

The event will be held at Will Rogers Memorial Center, Amon Carter Center - Round Up Inn, Ft. Worth on Tuesday December 2, 2008. Exhibits will be open from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The program and dinner are scheduled for from 4:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Event organizers have asked that, in order to plan for dinner arrangements, anyone who plans to attend please RSVP by Wednesday, November 19, 2008 to Charlotte Robinson at 214-634-3436 or via e-mail at charlotte@dienic.com.

The objective is to **Bring Native Americans Together**.

If anyone has any questions, please either send me an e-mail or call me at 817-282-0868.

I have a very limited e-mail address base, so if you have relatives in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, please forward this e-mail notice on to them. My e-mail list of contacts is exactly 10 CPN members in my

district.

I look forward to hearing from you and am honored to be your representative. Please contact me on any item. I am your voice in the legislature.

Bama Pi,
Bob Whistler/*B'Mashi*

RWhstler@Potawatomi.org
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
Oakwood Plaza
112 Bedford Road – Suite 116
Bedford, TX 76022
817-282-0868 - Office
817-868-9928 - Home

District #4 - Theresa Adame

Dear Citizens,

You know when I was younger I kept hearing my elders say “time just flies as you get older.” That is what I am feeling. It seems I just finish one article for the *HowNiKan* and I am informed of the next deadline.

Keeping on the subject of time, I want to publicly wish my father happy 80th birthday. For those of you who knew him growing up in Rossville, he is Raymond Martin. We held a small celebration this weekend for family and friends. So the next time you run into him wish him a happy birthday.

It has been a quite month in the Fourth District. Like many of you, I am watching the U.S. Government and the economy closely. You will be glad to know we have had discussion this month about watching our CPN budget. We have been lucky that Oklahoma has retained a pretty stable economy, compared to some states. That doesn't mean things won't change, though.

I was also asked recently to complete a survey by Justin Neeley the head of our language department. One of his questions was about my interest in different areas including language classes in Rossville. I know there is an abundance of information online. Sometimes, it just takes a scheduled time set aside to learn. If this is something you are interested in, please let me know or contact Justin at the CPN headquarters.

We are having a clinic outreach in Rossville on November 14 & 15. The hours on Friday are 2:00-5:00 p.m. On Saturday, they will be 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Clinic staff from Shawnee will be on



hand, administering flu shots to adult CPN citizens. They will also do blood pressure and blood sugar tests. No appointment is necessary. Please call the clinic if you have questions.

I will be on hand during those times in my office for anyone who would like a tour. I hope many of you are able to stop by so we can meet, and you can take advantage of this great program.

I now have office hours on the first Tuesday of each month, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. If you would like to meet at that time, call me or just stop by to see my office.

Just a reminder: If you would like to receive e-mail updates, please drop me a note at tadame@potawatomi.org, and I will add you to my list.

Megwetch,
Theresa Adame
Legislator, District #4

District #6 - Ron Goyer

Bozho Nikanek,

On Saturday, October 18, the doors of the District #6 Regional Office opened to welcome 80 Potawatomi, local elders, artists, and community leaders. The opening began a half-hour early with people lined up eager to see the new office and learn of the services and activities available to them. Tribal members like David Reynolds were interested in learning everything about our new resource center and the upcoming events. A few of these include but are not limited to:

- Drum-Making Classes
- Beadwork Classes
- Shawl & Ribbon-Shirt Classes
- Naming Ceremonies
- Friday Night Cultural Movie Night
- Holiday Feast, Saturday December 13, 2008

More cultural classes/activities will be planned in the near future.

Those who attended the open house enjoyed the idea that they could come in and research Native American topics in the Library area, which currently boasts 200 books and is growing.

We were honored to highlight the works of the well-known Smithsonian Artist/Sculptor Johnny “Bear” Contreras. Other artists whose work was on display are Darrell and Theresa Potts of Oklahoma, Hal Wiggins of Michigan, Tom and Suzi Grubbe of Southern California, and Devina Litton De La Torre, who is a protégé of Johnny Bears.

It should be known that my dad, Chuck Goyer, was instrumental in the success of both the opening of the center and of the logistics in the opening. I would like to



thank both my parents for their support and the display of their personal collection of Native art. Mike and Alex Pitawanakwat, Potawatomi/Ojibwe from Canada, also donated an important piece of artwork for the opening.

In closing, we were pleasantly surprised to host Potawatomi from Hannahville, Forest County, Canada, and Prairie Band, as well as the Kumeyaay from San Pasqual, Santa Ysabel, and Sycuan. Without their participation we would have missed important connections to Jahgenagenan.

As always please feel free to contact me any time at 760-891-0727 or RGoyer@Potawatomi.org.

Megwetch,
Ron Goyer/“Maskninye”
Legislator District #6



In the photo at left, from the District #6 open house, artwork by Johnny Bear, Tom & Suzi Grubbe, and Hal Wiggins is on display as two CPN members signing in at reception. In the photo at right, Temecula residents/Potawatomi members Patricia Reynolds and John Reynolds talk to Michael Champeau, Hannahville/Forest County Potawatomi.

Family Reunion Festival 2008 Photos

To view CPN Family Reunion Festival 2008 photos, go to www.potawatomi.org/Culture/Family+Reunion+Festival/default.aspx.

District #7 - Thom Finks

Bozho,

October, October how I love the coming of fall. Here in the foothills of the Sierra Mountains, the trees have started their change to the most magnificent array of colors one can imagine. The dog days of summer are gone, but the daytime is still very warm. But, the nights - the nights are getting cooler and cooler. The early mornings are down right nippy but it is for me the perfect sleeping weather.

October also signals other changes. At my house, this means baseball is almost done. College football is in full swing and at my house the most important thing is the beginning of hockey and basketball seasons. The San Jose Sharks and Sacramento Kings rule at my home.

I often look back at the past year and reflect on what's happened and what's next on life's agenda. For me this has been a full and amazing year.

I was elected as the representative of District #7 to the newly formed legislature of the CPN. District #7 is made up of Northern California, Northern Nevada, and the state of Hawaii. It is larger, by a whole state, than the old Northern California region that I had the good fortune and pleasure of serving as Regional Director for nine years.

After several years of suffering with osteoarthritis in my right hip, a condition that wears out the hip joint and causes a tremendous amount of pain, I was finally forced to use a wheelchair as my main means of transportation. On July 29, I underwent what is known as a THR, a total hip replacement. I am happy to report that 12 weeks later I feel GREAT - no more pain and best of all no more wheelchairs. OK, I used the chair for a while after the surgery but, once I received clearance from my surgeon, I began using a walker for a while, then a cane. Now, I'm on my own.

It has been a journey I hope no one else has to take but for me this has been a bit of a rebirth. It is amazing to me how one's perspective can be clouded by pain. But, all is well and I'm looking forward to the next Heritage festival so I can again get in full regalia and dance with my brother Jeremy and feel the drum speak to me.

District #7 news!

The address for the new District office



is 11768 Atwood Rd. #9, Auburn, Ca 95603. The telephone number is 530-889-2241. The e-mail address is TFinks@Potawatomi.org. We're working on a toll-free number for all of you outside the 530 area code. An open house for the office is in the works, and that information will be posted here as soon as we set a date.

I would like to take this time to invite everyone who has questions regarding the CPN or any programs offered by the CPN, i.e. Health Aid Foundation, scholarships, burial insurance, etc., to please contact me. I'm happy to answer your questions or direct you to the right department to help you.

This office, as well as all the other district offices through out the country, has been put in place for you, the tribal members. We as legislators need to hear from you. We need to know what you think and what you need. That is our commitment to you, the tribal members.

Speaking of tribal members, are you getting your *HowNiKan* the tribal newspaper? Are all the members of your family receiving it? If not, please let me or us know. We've been trying to get our mailing list updated but people move around a lot, and it is getting more difficult to keep the list current.

As long as we're talking about contacting people and getting information distributed to tribal members, are you sending in your absentee ballot at election time? Are you even receiving a request for an absen-

tee ballot? Are you voting in person in Shawnee every June? If not, why not? This tribe has 27,000 members. Now we know not all of the tribal members are old enough to vote but, in the last few elections, we've had less than 1500 votes placed. That is awful. My goodness 27,000 members and only 1500 votes total?

We as a country are in the midst of a huge presidential election. No matter

which political party you belong to, the press and papers as well as TV are full of the election. This is your tribal government asking you to get involved and vote. You can make a difference. Take the time to make your voice heard.

Megwetch

Thom Finks/*Nanamiski*

District #7

District #9 - Paul Wesselhoft

Bozho, Nikan!

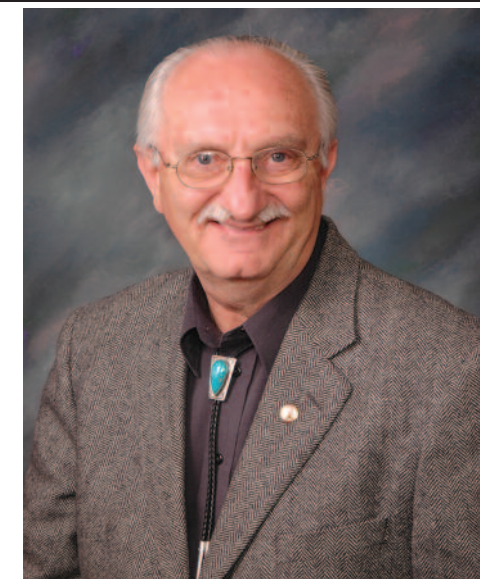
Veterans Day, November 11 is a holiday observed annually in the United States in honor of all those veterans, living and dead, who served with the U.S. armed forces. Unlike Memorial Day, which honors those who have died in wartime, Veterans Day honors all those who have served, in times of peace as well as in war.

I am a retired U.S. Army (Airborne Ranger) Chaplain. I have served my country in rank from Private to Sergeant to Major. I invested my youth serving in uniform, as did many of you reading this article. And this solidifies us in a special family.

As a veteran of the Vietnam War era and of the First Persian Gulf War, I salute my fellow veterans! And I am especially proud of my fellow Indian veterans. I am providing you with some data printed by the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission:

World War I: It is estimated that as many as 17,000 American Indians voluntarily served in the United States military in World War I. These loyal "Americans" took an oath to defend a Constitution that did not offer them the benefits of U.S. citizenship (which did not come to Native Americans until several years after WWI, - in 1924). Six-hundred Oklahoma Indians were assigned to the 142nd Infantry of the 36th Texas-Oklahoma National Guard Division and saw action in France. Four men from this unit were awarded the Croix de Guerre, while others received the Church War Cross for gallantry.

World War II: In 1924, the Snyder Act gave citizenship to American Indians, which made them eligible for the draft.



More than 44,000 American Indians, out of a total population of less than 350,000 Indians in the U.S., served with distinction between 1941 and 1945. More than 40,000 Indian people left their reservations to work in various war industries and invested more than \$50 million in war bonds.

Vietnam War: More than 42,000 Native Americans, more than 90% of them volunteers, fought in Vietnam.

At the close of the 20th Century, there were nearly 190,000 Native American military veterans. It is well recognized that, historically, Native Americans have the highest record of service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups.

When you meet Indian veterans, let them know their contribution to America fills you with great pride.

Megwitch,

Paul Wesselhoft

Rep., District #9

**Ensure that your tribal democracy works!
Vote in the
2009 Tribal Chairman/Legislative election.**

District #10 - David Barrett

Bozho,

I'm mad! How about you? At the beginning, when we were told the government needed to come up with 700 billion dollars, it was stated that we were in a "Financial Crisis." Well, I'm comfortable with financial matters; however, I don't like the claim that all of a sudden "the sky is falling." I don't like it that no one informed the public and that nothing was in the works to aid in solving this problem.

They blamed it on the greed of Wall Street investment bankers. When you search for the facts, you will find, in my opinion, that this so-called "financial crisis" started with home mortgages. Yes, the financial sector did do serious damage through mortgage brokers and investment bankers.

Where were the checks and balances for these entities? The SEC protects shareholders but had no effect on the institutions that have failed in recent weeks. The greed seen in the high-flying schemes of securitizing mortgage-backed securities has deceived the average person, myself included, who thought we could invest in the market with our own individual decision on allocating the amount of risk we want to take upfront.

But to learn in the darkest hours of the collapse of our financial system - caused by hidden, dishonest, stupid, fraudulent lending practices and the infamous "credit default swaps" whose true dollar value is unknown- is a joke!

What can I say? The Feds did nothing! WOW! I forgot "The Borrowers," what were their responsibilities? They said, "I want a home," And, the Government said, "Yes, you deserve one, but you can't pay for it. That's no problem. Sign here. Don't be responsible. Don't ask questions. Don't read your contract."

Many of us might want to question why we have been deceived by not being protected by the accountability and responsibility we thought were in place through our government agencies. The IRS makes sure that individuals must report and account for our transactions in our businesses.

What's sad is if the IRS doesn't get its payment, it has no problems using its ability to seize a business or shut it down. What has happened to the expert wisdom of our leaders who are elected to protect us



by establishing policies and regulations to prevent abuses - getting something for nothing, being granted something more than a homebuyer can pay for, or flat-out getting into a mortgage allowing the homebuyer to "pay whatever he wants, whenever he wants," or to pay just interest on a variable rate mortgage with a balloon payment due within two years, or securing a mortgage without having to state income or job security, or getting into a mortgage on which the homebuyer is upside down from the start (borrowing 110% of home value)?

In addition, we must not overlook the irresponsibility that was involved in offering (and accepting) adjustable rate mortgages - the infamous ARMs- that financed homes to be flipped, based on hopes that inflated home-value appreciation would continue indefinitely.

What to do? Many Americans, including myself, have seen their financial statements adversely affected by the crisis we are experiencing. What should one do? Well, you don't have to read any further because I don't have the answer for anyone's specific situation. However, I do believe that I can suggest things that might help you find your way through the upcoming years.

Positive attitudes will always triumph over negative ones. One of the things we can all work on is to do the best you can at your workplace because good workers will always benefit from their dedication. At

the work place, you might be the individual who makes the extra effort that enhances your company's profits by taking extra measures to cut costs and improve efficiency.

From my past business careers, I've seen different approaches to deal with economic downturns. Some small companies started cutting too soon because of fear. Others met with employees and discussed scenarios that could happen over a longer period to prevent losing jobs. Americans have always come together when danger threatens our livelihood.

Finance is built on trust, and suddenly that trust has been replaced by fear - fear among depositors, fear among banks, and fear among regulators. By all means, we must step back and not let fear drive our marketplace or cause us to make rash decisions.

Recently, I talked with First National Bank President Larry Briggs. He told me

that our bank is in "excellent position." They played by the book. It's a job well done by our bank officers and board members.

I also commend Mr. Bob Carlile, CPN Housing Director, for the application process for individuals seeking new homes. The applications are in-depth and have all the requirements that ensure a proper match between customer and mortgage.

I'm so proud of our Nation for having set into action all the tools necessary to keep and maintain the integrity of all of our enterprises. And, what foresight has been shown in enhancing our government by adding a third branch to ensure proper checks and balances. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is always seeking EXCELLENCE.

Megwetch

David Barrett/Mnedobe

Legislator, District #10

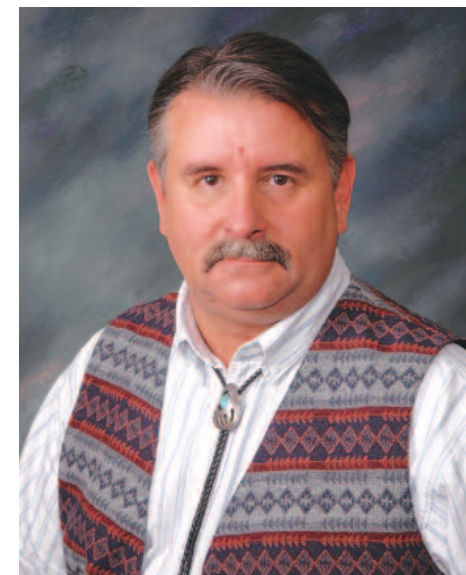
District #11 - Paul Schmidlkofer

Bozho, Nikan!

Well fall is upon us now here in Oklahoma. Football season is in full swing, I know many of you are enjoying the fact that Oklahoma has three teams ranked in the top 25 right now. My one vice my wife allows me is college football. So I am also enjoying each of this year's game.

Fall is also a time of families getting together. I hope each of you get to gather and enjoy this family time. As we get older we get to experience the transformation of our families. I have enjoyed watching my children turn into adults. As well as the special gift God has given us in the form of grandchildren. My wife and I always enjoy the holidays. It's the one time we are all able to get together during this time. With the busy schedules many of our lives demand we don't always get to come together and just visit.

I would like to remind each of you that the nation has many programs in place to help its members. With the downturn in the economy some may be experiencing some tough times. Many of the programs are only available to members living in Oklahoma. It is not our desire to exclude those living outside of the state. It is just the way the federal government has set up the programs. So if you live outside of Oklahoma you might check with some of



the local tribes to see if they have any programs to help. For those of you living in Oklahoma give the nation a call and they can direct you to the appropriate department.

One of my favorite programs that the nation has is available to all its members. It is the college scholarship through tribal rolls. All you have to do is download the forms from the website or call tribal rolls and have them send you a set. Follow what is the procedure listed and you will be approved for this program. In today's economy one of the only ways you can help your own situation is through improv-

ing your qualifications. Like many of you I have gone back to college and continued my education. No it's not easy to go to school at night but many have done it and I believe each of you can. You can finish that degree you started way back when and then perhaps qualify yourself for a better job.

I have always believed that education is the easiest pathway to success. There is an old saying that I often share with people. I believe it may have originated from the bible. Give a man a fish and he eats for a day. Teach him to fish and he eats for a lifetime. Education is much the same thing. It allows us to move into a better

level of life. So at least for those of us with children who may be in college it is something we should pursue. College is not cheap. And for those who may be feeling the economic crunch it is time to start looking at ways we can position ourselves to ride out this thing and maybe come out on top when it is over.

I hope the season finds each of you in good health and that prosperity comes your way. Be safe as you travel this holiday season. As always it has been an honor to serve you.

Megwetch!

Paul Schmidtkofer

Representative, District 12

District #12 - Lisa Kraft

This month's column is of a personal nature. I recently celebrated a milestone birthday. As I went to the mail to see what well wishes had arrived, I found a large brown envelope with what looked like a book inside. I immediately put everything aside and tore into the package. For those of you who enjoy books as much as I do, you can appreciate my excitement.

What was inside was simply unexpected. At a time when my mind was consumed with turning 40 and reflecting on what could have been had I made other choices, it took a distant relative to bring my thoughts into clear focus. It was if a light bulb illuminated a brighter way of seeing the "what is" rather than the "what if." I have Susan Greene to thank.

Susan is a tribal member who lives in Florida. She was answering my request for information about Sacred Heart. She was also writing to share her passion for the tribe and how our families are connected. Susan's dad was an O'Connor who married a Navarre/DeGraff. My grandmother was a Peltier (who descended from the Cummings/Ogee/Weld families) who married an O'Connor. So, Susan and I are related along paternal lines that both ended up marrying Potawatomi women from Sacred Heart.

Inside the envelope was her family genealogy, contact numbers for her relatives whom I can interview, and a book that she read as a child and later to her own children. She wanted me to pass it along and read it to my son, who is five. Her generosity overwhelmed me to say the least. Not only did Susan give of herself by sharing family information, she consciously passed along her family tradition to mine -



a Potawatomi tradition that is.

At 40, it has floored me to think of the time I have thrown away developing "what if" scenarios hoping to give my family a more pampered way of life or exhausting efforts trying to convince others of my full potential only to be overlooked. Susan's act of kindness empowers me to shift my mind and efforts back to my family rather than dwelling on the things beyond my control. It has already given me peace of mind. As I turn the pages of Susan's book, reading to my son, I know that my time is better spent passing along my values and developing his young mind into a gracious one. Life simply does not get any more rewarding than this.

I hope that you find excitement in the little things today, pass along a tradition in your own extended Potawatomi family, and simply find the time to get back to the basics.

To Susan and her family, my sincere condolences on the recent loss of your mother, Judith O'Connor. Our tribe is one less strong today, but her memory will live on with my son each time I pick up your

book and read to him.

As always, I am thinking Potawatomi. Lisa

P.S. To help ensure that your families will live on in the generations to come, please take a picture of your Potawatomi grandparents and copy one of them graduating high school. Send them in to Tribal Rolls, along with their favorite words of wisdom and memories of their parents.

District #13 - Bobbie Bowden

Bozho Nikan,

I hope this issue finds you all well. As I mentioned in my past articles my goal is to provide you with information on some of our tribal traditions.

With much help from Brandee Smith, tribal member and manager of FireLake Gifts located in the Cultural Heritage Center, this month I would like to provide you with some information on women's regalia.

The following is from the book Indian Clothing of the Great Lakes 1740-1840. This book is available in the library located in the Heritage Center, which by the way is a wonderful place for information on native foods, history, and traditions. Additionally, Indian Clothing... can also be purchased from FireLake Gifts. If it is not in stock, Brandee or any of the wonderful employees will be happy to order it for you.

Indian Woman - 18th Century: *In the early days of the fur trade, Indian women received calico or linen trade shirts. The fabric was from India or England, where they tried to imitate the brilliant India prints. The shirts were given as part of the gift-giving policy of the superintendent of the fur trade. The shirts, when worn by the women, were worn for special occasions in the early 18th century. Later in the century, the shirt was nearly always worn as part of the woman's ensemble. The shirt was often decorated with silver brooches of various sizes, trade beads were worn in multiple layers around the neck, and finger-woven sashes added color and shape when worn around the waist. These shirts were worn by women from the eastern Pennsylvania Delaware to the Huron of Quebec, the Shawnee and Miami of Ohio and Indiana as well as the Indian women living in parts of Wisconsin, Illinois, and Minnesota.*



Hair - Tied back in club fashion behind the nape of the neck; Silver Ear Wheels - One (1) in each ear; Calico Trade Shirt - Cotton or linen fabrics with large Indian prints; Silver Ring Brooches - Worn on the shoulders; and larger cut brooches worn on the lower front and hem of the shirt; Trade Bead Necklaces - These, along with a silver cross of Lorraine, worn around the neck; Blanket or Matchcoat - Worn over the shirt; Wrap-Around Skirt - Made of wool duffle or stroud and decorated with silk ribbon or wool braid trim on hem and silver ring brooches in diamond patterns just above the hem; Petticoat made of cotton, chintz, silk, or linen could be worn instead; Leggings - From wool stroud with wings decorated with two colors of silk ribbon running parallel on wing edge and around the ankles; Moccasins - center seam, one-piece moccasins with ears or wing flaps decorated with two colors of silk ribbons.

Capped Shirt: *By the 1820s, many of the Indian women were observed wearing*

a caped shirt or blouse embellished with many silver brooches over a petticoat trimmed in ribbons of various colors. An English artist named George Winter came to Indiana in 1837 and made a pictorial record of the Miami and Potawatomi Indians living along the Wabash and Eel rivers. Winter describes the "toute ensemble" of Frances Slocum, a captive living among the Miami in the following manner: "She was dressed in red calico shirt figured with large showy yellow and green folded within the upper part of her metacoshe or petticoat of black cloth of excellent quality. Her nether limbs were clothed with fady-red leggins, winged with green ribbons, and her feet were moccasinless." (Winter 1948: p. 176)

The caped shirt that was worn by the Huron of Quebec as well as the Miami, Shawnee, Potawatomi, Menominee and Illini tribes was based in part on a European drop sleeve trade shirt. As with that particular style, the shirt was composed of a loosely fitted bodice reaching to the abdomen and often covering the hips. These had long blousy sleeves, with a fitted cuff that buttoned or tied at the wrist with a ruffle over each hand. The women added a large over-the-shoulder cape-like collar that shows up in many forms in museum collections and paintings (Winter 1948: Plates IX, XIV, XVIII, XIX).

Some capes consisted of one large ruffle draped over the shoulders with a one to three inch secondary ruffle sewn to the bottom of the first. Others were modified further with an almost V-shaped yoke that formed the nucleus of the cape to which long pieces of fabric were sewn. At the neck opening, a smaller piece of fabric was gathered and stitched forming a fold-over collar (Cranbrook #2212). Other variations included several ruffles stitched together lengthwise and gathered to a circular neck band that was in turn stitched to the neck opening. The sizes of the ruffles varied greatly even among members of the same tribe (Indiana History Bulletin 1966: pp. 132-135). The ruffle edges appear to have remained plain until ribbon was used

in the mid-19th century (Conn 1975: p. 71). Cuff ruffles ranged in width from one to two inches and were attached by folding tiny pleats of the ruffle (instead of gathering it) and hand-stitching it into the cuffs.

The origin of the shirt with large cape is not clear. It is likely that they developed from a similar style seen in men's hunting frocks. Hunting frocks worn by Indian men and caped-shirts of similar style worn by Indian women were worn frequently after the Revolutionary War (Harrington 1987: Personal Interview).

Shirt embellishment was very important to the Indian women. Silver brooches of varying sizes were used on the capes of the shirt and placed in several rows around the front and the back. The wearing of large numbers of brooches on the bodice was fashionable, quantity being a measure of status and wealth.

In addition to this information, you might also purchase many other items from FireLake Gifts. For example, they have Woodland Moccasin Kits, fringe and fringing needles, fabric for wrap skirts, and many crafting supplies. And, Brandee and the other employees are more than happy to refer you to some extremely talented people who are able to custom-make your regalia for you.

The look, colors, ribbon work, etc. are very important and are personal decisions for you to make. Each time, I wear my shawl or other regalia I am overwhelmed with an enormous feeling of pride.

In closing, I would like to add how important it is for us to support our tribal enterprises, such as FireLake Gifts. It is the success of these enterprises that allows our tribe to continue to provide the wonderful benefits offered to our citizens. So, please support them with your patronage any opportunity you have. The service and knowledge of the staff will make it worth the drive to Shawnee!

Thank you for the honor of representing you.

Megwetch,
Bobbie Bowden
Legislative Representative, District #13

we had already estimated a downturn in revenue. As I write this article, it appears that, in the short run, the markets have rebounded and survived the initial threat. While I am sure that all the "dirty laundry" has not been aired we are getting to the bottom of the hamper. I believe that we all have to stay the course and work our way through what appears to be a sluggish 2009.

This would be a great time to give your Nation's enterprises all the business you can. You will just be helping yourself. We are very competitive in every business that we are in, be it entertainment, banking, grocery, or golf, just to mention a few.

Please continue to bring us your issues and concerns. It continues to be a great



honor to serve as your Secretary/Treasurer.
Megwetch,
D. Wayne Trousdale/"NETEMGIWSE"

Vice Chairman Linda Capps

Bozho,

I recently sent Citizen Potawatomi Nation employees a message of acknowledgment for the great team effort that they put forth on a daily basis. The downside to my e-mail is that I could not name every instance, all circumstances, and all departments/employees who are such great advocates of the teamwork concept. I only hope that they understood the depth of my appreciation for their undying efforts, even though I could not name everyone.

In order for us to have successful programs and enterprises and effective operations, we must have the right people in place, and they must be team players. I am confident that this is true at our Nation 95 percent of the time, which is an outstanding percentage. A balanced, stable, efficient workforce with a team-player attitude derives constant dividends to our Nation.

One marvelous outcome of my e-mail message of acknowledgment was the instant feedback. I heard from several employees who provided recent teamwork examples. They are excellent examples, worthy of special recognition. Perhaps we can do just that at our Christmas reception this year.

Within my message to the employees, I named several instances that I recently observed as directors helped other directors, departments teamed with other departments, and our employees partnered with the community in order to reach goals and objectives. Each of the examples in my message was for activities outside of the workday, which is quite admirable.

But, the day-to-day cooperation of our employees is just as astounding. The attitude of teamwork can be observed every day at the CPN. I call it a general spirit of "caring and sharing."

There are too many examples of team-



work at the CPN to reference in this article for fear of recognizing a few and neglecting many. Instead, I want to convey, in general, how the CPN employees incorporate the teamwork theory on their regular jobs and as they represent the Nation outside of the workday. I commend each of them for their great efforts, and I want our readers to be aware of how vitally important their teamwork attitude is to the success of the CPN.

The CPN is an exceptional nation for many reasons...for its rich culture and heritage, the good people within its membership, a stable government founded upon solid nation-building principles, and qualified leadership.

But, I have often said in regard to the daily operations of our Tribe, "This Nation is great because of...the professionals, directors, supervisors, managers, workers...the employees."

I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts with our readers.

Megwetch,
Linda Capps

Secretary/Treasurer D. Wayne Trousdale

Bozho, Nikan,

I wish that I could say what will happen next. In this economic turmoil that has shaken the very foundation of the United States economy, it is almost impossible not to feel

anxious about the future. But, let me reassure you that we are taking a very conservative approach at the Nation with respect to our asset management.

Fortunately, through our budget process,

Chairman John Barrett

Bozho Nikan (Hello, My Friends),

As I write this letter, the United States is experiencing a severe recession. The outlook for the economy, as reported in newspapers and on television, is discouraging. Many people are losing their jobs, and many are losing their homes. Big banks are failing or being sold at a loss to stockholders. Wall Street has lost the trust of investors, and retirement plans are facing huge losses for both retired and working people.

Many people have lost faith in federal leadership, and the election process has created more fear and uncertainty. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan continue. As Americans, we are fearful.

So, what is the outlook for our Indian Citizenship – how do things look for us as Citizen Potawatomi? How is our Tribe going to fare in this recession?

First, we are financially stable. Our income is derived from a broader base than almost any other tribe's. As owners of the largest tribally-owned bank in the United States, we have a healthy bank. Federal regulators rank us safe and sound. We did not lend any money in the form of those "sub-prime" mortgages that hurt the industry so badly. None.

Truthfully, we do not believe those "sub-prime" mortgages were actually loans. We think they were "bets" with other people's money, which is forbidden by federal banking law. Without a doubt, our bank will be affected by the economic slowdown, the same as all banks. Our profits will be reduced some. We will have some loans that will be slow in paying and a few that will be bad. We anticipated and planned for that.

Our overall condition at the bank is healthy, and it will remain so. We might even have some opportunity for expansion. If you recall, we bought our first bank during the worst year for banking in five decades – 1989. We bought it cheap because it was failing. We built it up with careful investment and growth from hard work.

Historically, there are business areas that are affected less than others in a recession. According to *Newsweek Magazine*, they are food, fuel, gaming, medicine, liquor, discount stores, and funeral services. We are already in six of those seven



businesses in some form. We have been planning for the seventh, funerals, for a year.

FOOD: FireLake Discount Foods is still the largest stand-alone grocery store in Oklahoma. It is profitable and provides groceries for our area at prices comparable to the big grocery stores in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. We compete well against the local Wal-Mart Super Store.

FUEL: Our two fuel outlets are selling more than 300,000 gallons per month.

GAMING: FireLake Grand Casino is repaying the loan we took out to build it in five years. In addition to that, we are earning as much from gaming as we were making before we built Grand Casino. Adding FireLake Entertainment Center's profits, we have increased gaming profit over 2006-07 by more than 150%.

MEDICINE: Our clinic continues to increase out-patient care for tribal citizens while growing our free prescription service to elders. Third-party billings from insurance and federal programs remain our highest growth income for medical care.

LIQUOR: Alcoholic beverage profits at the two casinos exceed food profits at the five restaurants/buffets. Tax on this item will be the subject of a legal dispute with the Oklahoma Tax Commission. We are being taxed more than \$120,000 per year by Oklahoma in conflict with our interpretation of the gaming compact.

FUNERAL SERVICES: We are negotiating with the larger casket companies to determine if we should provide caskets as

part of our \$2000 burial benefits. Caskets are often marked up more than 400 percent.

As a tribal people made up of blood kin, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation has an obligation to try to make the lives of our families better while preserving our culture, language, and existence. The obligation is two-way. If you live here, *we need your business*. Our prices are low, and our service is good. Please do business with the business you own.

When I look at the current economic crisis, I cannot help but recall that we have had one of these every nine or 10 years for a century, except for WWII. Since we became economically viable, the recessions of 1990-92 and 2000-02 affected us the most. In each, we tightened our belts by cutting costs to meet our revenues. In each recession, our CPN economy continued to grow, not get smaller.

As a result of these recessions we pur-

chased assets worth twice their price then – our bank in 1989 and the headquarters building in 2002 – and many may times their purchase price in income in the present. During this recession, we have an opportunity to help our individual citizens as a part of our recession strategy.

The front page story about that plan, called the Tribal Savings Certificate, is the best and safest way we can help the many in our tribe who have experienced losses in their savings and retirement income. I hope each of you will study it and participate. I will present it to the Tribal Legislature in November.

It is urgent that you open communications with your Legislator by responding to the e-mail registration request in this issue of the HowNiKan.

Thank you for the opportunity and honor to serve you as Tribal Chairman. Megwetch,

John Barrett/(Keweoge)

Q&A: John 'Rocky' Barrett, Chairman, Citizen Potawatomi Nation by Brian Blansett - Publisher, Shawnee News-Star

Brian Blansett: How do you see the future of gaming?

John Barrett: As far as gaming goes, I think gaming is near the top of its developmental arch. Within the next five years, Indian gaming and all other gaming will peak. I think that's a function of technology. When all television sets go digital in just a few months, what will happen is the availability of gaming content over the television. When you can play a slot machine with your channel changer, the gaming side of it - the whole business of watching wheels turn on a video screen - that will certainly be diminished. The entertainment value of going to a casino with food and atmosphere is kind of like watching a television movie and going to a movie theater - it's a different entertainment experience, even though it may be the same picture. Those gaming operations that have a pleasant environment and other amenities to offer are going to win over those that do not. So tribes that intend to have gaming over the long run need to turn those into full, first-class entertainment venues where people can go, watch a show, eat dinner and maybe do a little gaming.

People need to get the same entertainment value out of an evening at the casino as they do out of an evening of going out to dinner and the movies. Basically, if you have a \$50 or \$75 evening, you should be

entertained for three to four hours and be able to go home. That should happen at a casino the same as it should be able to happen going to dinner and a movie.

BB: What are the plans for the hotel at the FireLake Grand Casino?

RB: That project will proceed entirely based on what happens to credit markets. We're not under any particular pressure other than competitive pressure. Our competition is building a hotel at Riverwind south of Norman on Interstate 35. They're building a hotel now and of the five or six mega-casinos in the state, four of them have hotel plans or have the hotel in place or are building. We're one of those four, so we're going to have to, from a competitive standpoint, build a hotel. We are currently negotiating the rates and terms. Right now, it's a very difficult environment to plan in because you don't really know where the economy is going to go.

BB: Are there going to be new ventures for the Citizen Potawatomi over the next two or three years?

RB: We have several candidates for our industrial development park over on U.S. 177 that we're trying to influence to come on that property. We've committed to put some \$10 million into Rural Water District #3 and we are petitioning to extend some of our services over into the counties that

See **BARRETT Q&A** on page 22

Barrett Q&A, con't from page 21

are adjacent to us. We plan on expanding that water district. That is a very long-term investment, by the way. You don't make any return in the first 10 years in the water business. Besides the water district, we have a very strong interest in the rail that has been out of service since the 1980s. The old Rock Island system connects us to Holdenville, Seminole, Wewoka, McAlister is vital to the economic health of our area. The reason that development has been restricted going east is the access to rail. When the Union Pacific acquired the Rock Island system and the bridge went out, the line was allowed to just grow up in trees. We were once considered the Tri-City area. Seminole and Wewoka were part of our market area and the communities helped feed each other. When the rail went out, Shawnee sort of pulled in. We're not really interested in going out and spending the \$15 million that it's going to take to get that rail up and operable. We have other things we could invest our money in that would give us a quicker and possibly higher return, but no one else seems to be interested in coming up with the money. Everyone has a lot of ideas, but someone has to start pledging the money and making the commitment to do something.

We have talked it to death. If we're not careful, we're going to allow 'Big Rail' to define terms for the rail that goes back in service. That will make that rail almost impossible to bring back into service. I would love to see that railroad operable, even if it was as a non-profit, and back in service. It crosses three Indian tribal jurisdictions, and the tribes, I think, would have an economic development interest in it.

There is too little consideration given to the power of the tribes in economic development. The tribes don't just bring dollars to the deal - they bring capabilities of financing infrastructure development that the other communities don't have. Look at what Ada and Ardmore have had in working with the Chickasaw Nation and Durant working with the Choctaw Nation. That hasn't happened in Shawnee. This year, we are going to build a new bowling center and youth activity center south of town. That construction will move very quickly. We are putting in new RV spaces within the last 30 days. We have a new bank building being built in 2009. We are building a new clinic and there will be an addition to the wellness center and a storm shelter for our elderly members.

BB: What kind of involvement do the Citizen Potawatomi have in local economic development?

RB: It would be nice to have a seat at the table. We had a \$389.8 million financial impact on the community in 2007. We have a \$48 million 2008 payroll. We just passed a 2009 operating budget of \$214 million, which, when compared with the operating budgets of the other communities and other businesses here, is very large. I think the largest.

We're not involved. We're not invited to sit down and talk. For instance, I've never been invited to a rail meeting. The conversations about the new water resources that would be coming from the direction of the Atoka system, we've never been invited to that. We're one of the largest economic forces in the community, and we're either being overlooked or excluded, one of the two. I think we have a great deal to offer in partnering on economic development.

We have 10,000 tribal members in the state. There are 5,000 tribal members who are served from Shawnee. That's 20 percent of the population of the town, including those people who are married to Potawatomi; that's a big segment of the community. What's good for the Potawatomi Nation is good for Shawnee and vice versa.

BB: What about license tags?

RB: We send a check directly from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to the Shawnee school system. The Oklahoma tag money goes to Oklahoma City and then it gets massaged around and some of it comes back, but the money for Potawatomi tags equivalent to the percentage of our tag fee is sent directly to the school district. We're sending checks directly to school districts all over the state where there are substantial Potawatomi populations. I believe we are the only tribe to do so.

The issue of tags is not a big revenue issue. It is a governmental issue that recognizes the combined jurisdictions of the area and the dual citizenship of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. We are citizens of the state, the United States, the Potawatomi Nation, and citizens of Shawnee.

Those are rights and privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. We see some of that manifested in those tags. That and there is some pride in our people having a tag. It saves them money and it has done a lot to allow Potawatomi to know each other.

Title VI Elders Program: More than Just Nutrition



Reported & written by Sheila Hughes

Located inside the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Wellness Center on Gordon Cooper Drive in south Shawnee, the cafeteria for lunchtime meals is also a safe haven and meeting place for any Potawatomi over the age 55. "It's all about the elders," says Denise Smith. Smith, who is a CPN member, has been the director of the Title VI Program since 1991. She is extremely dedicated to ensuring the quality of food and activities that give the Nation's precious elders a place to call their own.

Typically, 50 to 65 elders gather each weekday for a free, well-rounded meal. Additionally, approximately 20 lunches are delivered to the homes of elders who cannot make the trip to the center. At the Nation's McLoud Title VI location, another 20 to 25 are fed each Thursday and Friday. The food is prepared by the program's excellent cooks and transported to the McLoud Title VI site.

Along with the well-balanced meal each weekday, knitting, crocheting, painting, and dance classes are offered. The elders compete at Bingo three times a week - complete with prizes for the winners. As elders, though, they are ALL winners!

Quite often, they enjoy a lively game of dominoes. The Title XI elders takes off on three or four day-excursions to such places as Branson, Missouri, San Antonio, Texas, Nashville, Tennessee, and other entertaining destinations each year. These trips are a welcome treat for the elders, many of whom might not have an opportunity for such travel, otherwise.

Each Christmas season, they have the pleasure of feasting their eyes on the Christmas lights in Chickasha and or Muskogee. The elders are also treated to the brilliance of the azalea festival when they

are in bloom.

There is a feeling of peace and comfort that cannot be ignored, as any time of the day many gather to play games, watch TV, work on personal projects, or just have some much need socializing with one another. It is evident by the photographs and inspirational quotes under the glass at each table and through a heartwarming spirit that God is continually present in this atmosphere.

The elders also have access to a transportation program to help them reach out-of-town doctor's appointments or for other health-related trips.

"We love it!" Leo Rearden exclaimed, as his wife Bonnie unloaded his wheelchair from their trunk. This reporter understood why, as my taste buds were engaged just from the aroma drifting out into the parking lot, and when inside, joined them in prayer led by Don Pate to bless our food. As I dined with my elders, it was evident that this is indeed a 'home away from home' that adds so much to the senior citizens' lives - much more than mere nutrition for the body.

I must say, though, that the food was delicious and the dinner companionship delightful. There is always an open invitation to dine with them. It was well worth the four dollars just to be in their presence, and the salad bar would put many local restaurants to shame.

We are such a blessed Nation to be fortunate enough to be able to provide all these quality-of-life enhancements for those who are so very important to our lives. If you do not live in the Shawnee area, there is assuredly a Title VI program near you. Feel free to call Denise. Smith at 405-878-4833 or e-mail her at DSmith@Potawatomi.org for more information.

Maverick Hotel. con't from page 12

this newspaper and decided to check out the resource. CPCDC staff were willing to listen to their business ideas, to give expert advice and to offer help in every respect. "We were challenged to rethink our business plan," Bob and Cherie recall.

"Research showed that we had understated our projected occupancy rate according to other businesses in the area. This was surprising and encouraging. The counsel has proven to be accurate. After six months of business, we have exceeded our goals and are excited about future growth. Travelers have come from all over the United States and we have hosted guests from Italy, France, and Peru. In our many business ventures, we have not worked with a more discerning group. Their service was fast, accurate and flexible enough to meet our needs while upholding their criteria," the Trousdale said.

"Working with the CPCDC has had a great impact on our business," they continue. "Primarily, being able to depend on the knowledge, expertise, and efficiency of those working with the CDC has allowed us to focus on our business. We are able to focus on marketing our facility and taking special care of the guests. We have peace of mind. We have developed a relationship with personnel and feel that they truly are excited about our project and share our desire for success. We want to thank Kristi and Cindy for their unwavering encouragement and going beyond. They have truly made us feel like we are their only customers and have exceeded our expectations."

As of April 2008, CPCDC has granted 108 commercial loans totaling \$6,954,284. Contact Information: (405) 878-4697- 800- 880-9880 toll free - (405) 878-4665 fax - 130 E. MacArthur, Suite 206, Shawnee, OK 74801



41707 Hardesty Road - Shawnee, OK 74801 - (405) 878-8770
Signs - Logoed Apparel - Marketing Specialty Items

Trail of Death, con't from page 13

and two small children died along the road. Established around 1811, the Gopher Hill cemetery was there when the Potawatomi marched through on their exodus.

A story passed down for generations tells of children from a farm house across from the cemetery, who came to play with the Potawatomi children on the trail. It is at the Indiana-Illinois state line that the great expanse of wet prairie begins to stretch out for miles. The wet conditions made the journey almost impossible and contributed greatly to the sickness that ran rampant in the area, plucking so many young lives.

Danville, Illinois - The first point of encampment in Illinois on the westward march was near the North Fork River in Danville. There, it was noted that the whole country was afflicted with sickness. It was also at Danville that Father Petit finally caught up to the Potawatomis on the trail as he had to first obtain permission to join them. He had last seen them at Logansport.

When we arrived at the historic marker in Danville, we were met by several supporters from Anderson MacIntyre Historical Services who provided lunch at the Elsworth Park.

On Thursday, September 20, General Tipton and most of his dragoons were dismissed. Judge William Polke of Rochester, Indiana assumed the responsibility of conducting the Potawatomis on their removal to the west. Upon Tipton's dismissal, Father Petit approached Polke about freeing the shackled chiefs from the jail wagons. Polke agreed, and the chiefs are released. Even some of Tipton's soldiers regretted ever joining the militia to conduct the forced march. Father Petit noted that the Americans showed compassion for the Potawatomis in almost every town. He wrote that most people came out and looked on in disbelief while others shielded their eyes and turned away in tears. Only the militia men seemed to use the term "red skin."

Old State Capitol Plaza in Springfield, Illinois - Construction was underway on the state capitol building on the town square in Springfield during the forced removal. It was very large, the first to be built in the region. News of the march had already spread through town.

Polke promised tobacco to the Potawatomis on the trail if they would put on their best clothes and exhibit pride despite the sickness and death they had suffered through. While, many of the Potawatomis, including Petit, questioned his motives, Polke argued that the Potawatomis are a proud people and should be entitled to the

respect they deserved.

Several Potawatomi leaders argued that making them dress in their finest clothes only to be gawked at was reprehensible. Petit felt it was just a way to shield the public from the repugnant reality of removal and present the appearance that the removal was not that bad.

So large was the crowd of townspeople gathered in Springfield for the event, anxious to view the passing party, that it was feared the Potawatomis would not be able to get through. When they passed through on September 29, they did as Polke had asked, gathering themselves together, arranged in a single file line in their best clothes so as to exhibit pride. A stone mason working on the Old State Capitol building, Jawed P. Irwin, witnessed their march through town and recorded the event as an entry in his journal. After the days march, a child died, and they camped at McCoy's Mills.

Jacksonville, Illinois - The Potawatomis on the trail reached Jacksonville on October 1, 1838 to camp for the evening. On the way there, a child fell from a wagon and was crushed by the wheels.

Onlookers came out to watch the approaching procession, and late that night, the town marching band paid a visit to the Potawatomi camp, playing music for them. The next day, when the Potawatomis were marched through the Jacksonville town square, the band played for them again, serving as escort.

The people of Jacksonville gave the Potawatomis simple gifts of apples, bread, tobacco, and pipes as they made their way through town. Although they were allowed to hunt from the Illinois River to Indian Territory, they found the game to be increasingly scarce. The wooded forests were gone. Only tiny clusters of trees, scattered across the vast prairies, provided shade. When the soldiers asked the Potawatomis to sing, they refused.

Quincy, Illinois at St. Boniface Catholic Church - At Quincy, the Potawatomis of the Catholic faith were allowed to attend Mass at Saint Boniface Catholic Church. It was there they crossed the Mississippi River.

The Trail of Death caravan members also stopped there, where the church, that has been closed for five years, was re-opened for the afternoon so services could be held. Several members of the community attended to pay respects as well. Tribal members Sister Virginia Pearl and Bob Pearl participated in the services.

Quinsippi Island, Illinois - That evening, Steve Tieken, director of the North American Archaeological Institute, who coordinated

the Trail of Death caravan in Quincy, Illinois, arranged for a community supper in Quinsippi Park. There, the caravan was greeted by Quincy residents, who gave the caravan members gifts and a wonderful potluck dinner. Invitations were extended to members of the caravan to stay in historic homes in Quincy.

The caravan crossed the Mississippi River the next day, continuing on through Palmyra and Pleasant Spring, the site of another encampment, where an adult and an elderly woman died, and a child, running to catch up with his father, crossed between two wagons and was trampled underfoot by horses.

The exchange of knowledge between young and old, tribal members and the general public, was inspiring. The history surrounding the tragedy known as the Trail of Death is often left out. In traveling on the caravan, we were offered a chance to see that this wound is also one shared by non-Indians, who showed up at almost every location to wish us luck, pay respects, show their support or just share a few words about the atrocity that took place so long ago.

Many of the witnesses mentioned in the diaries kept along the way passed this story down through the years as well. From the back porch of the Gander Farm in Illinois, the indentation of the trail used by the Potawatomi in 1838 can still be seen, running the length of the open fields.

Paris, Missouri - Continuing on, the trail winds through Paris, Missouri, where we visited the Paris museum and research center. That evening, the Huntsville and Randolph County historical societies hosted dinner for the Trail of Death caravan members at the library in Moberly, Missouri. By mid-October, the weather had changed drastically, from extreme heat to extreme cold. Hard rain mixed with sleet began to fall. Still, the Potawatomis pressed on, entire bodies and extremities numb, leaving a crimson trail in the snow from bloody feet. The main cause of death changed from heat to exposure. Mud-clogged roads made it almost impossible for the wagons or feet to move.

The next day brought our group through Huntsville, Salisbury, Keytsville, and Brunswick, Missouri by the Grand River. On October 22, 1838, the Potawatomis on the Trail of Death began ferrying the Grand River in the severe cold, with many barefoot. By dark, they had most of the wagons and people across but had to camp overnight and finish the next day.

It would be a few more days before the soldiers distributed the shoes they had kept hidden.

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DeWitt, Missouri is the site referred to on the Trail of Death as Thomas' Encampment. In 1838, the wet bottom lands and severe cold made the march miserable. We stopped there for mid-morning refreshments and a few pictures at the DeWitt Community Center before continuing on through Carrollton and Richmond, Lexington, Wellington, and Napoleon, Missouri.

Independence, Missouri - A replacement Trail of Death historical marker was dedicated at Pioneer Spring Park in honor and remembrance of those who suffered on the Trail of Death. In 1838, those on the trail camped two miles south of Independence. The next day, the Potawatomi on the Trail of Death began again in a mist of sleet and rain. Their party spread out over a distance of four miles, and got lost on the path, walking for miles in what Petit called a complete wilderness across which there were no roads, once they crossed the state line into Kansas.

Eventually reunited, the Potawatomi had finally made their way through Missouri to enter the western territory of Kansas south of Independence.

As we came closer and closer to our destination, retracing the Trail of Death, the entire group seemed to be gathering momentum. In Paola, Kansas, we visited the Miami County Historical Museum which housed a significant collection of artifacts from the site of the first school for Potawatomi girls. It was established after their arrival and under the care of the pioneer band of the Religious of the Sacred Heart. CPN member Sr. "Ginger" Pearl tested the swings with the children on the town plaza before lunch.

Osawatimie, Kansas - The last encampment site for the Potawatomi on the Trail of Death was at Bulltown, on Bull Creek near a settlement of Wea Indians. The next day was the Sabbath, Sunday, November 4, 1838. With only a little over 20 miles remaining before arriving at their final destination, the procession marched on, leaving one ill family behind.

They crossed the Osage River at 2 o'clock that afternoon, and reached their destination on Potawatomi Creek by 3:30, beyond exhaustion from hunger and fatigue. Father Petit writes of their arrival at Potawatomi Creek, "Our long and painful journey, marked by the anguish of exile and the ravages of epidemic is at an end. The Christian Indians have been relocated. Sixty four days and 660 miles west, we have finally arrived

at the Osage River two months later.

"...We started out with close to 850 Indians in the caravan. The government has now registered 650 at the Kansas reserve."

"Upon their arrival, they found a group of earlier relocated Potawatomi and their resident Priest, Father Christian Hoecken, who had been awaiting their arrival."

But they found no homes as they had been promised. They woke to snow the next morning and knew the winter would soon set in. Pe-Pish-Kay and others gathered at Polke's quarters to speak of the conditions which they found at the end of a long and anguished journey. "We have now arrived at our journey's end. The government must now be satisfied. We have been taken from homes affording us plenty, and brought to a desert - a wilderness - and are now to be scattered and left as the husbandman scatters his seed," Polke was told.

By March of 1839, the Potawatomi had relocated to Sugar Creek, about 15 miles south, where they would establish new homes and remain for the next decade.

Today at Sugar Creek, a memorial has been erected. The names of more than 600 Potawatomi whose lives were lost during the decade they lived at Sugar Creek are inscribed on large wooden crosses.

Our caravan reached its final destination there as well. It had been a long and intriguing journey for us. We met some wonderful people along the way and were lucky enough to share our thoughts and feelings throughout the journey. It is an experience I will cherish.

My hope is that each person who participated will take with them what they've learned and carry it forward in their lives as a reminder of not only the tragedies and hardships endured by their ancestors, but, more important, as a source of pride and strength in themselves and their families as tribal members.

The Trail of Death is only one chapter in the history of the Potawatomi people, who even then managed to survive in the tidal forces of the wave of western expansion. And even at what seems to be the end, it is but a beginning, a new chapter. With each hardship, this tribe seems only to be bound more tightly together, prepared to face the coming blows and continue to move forward as you have done since before the Trail of Death, and as you have done for the 170 seventy years since.

Leslie Gee,
Tribal Heritage Project Manager



In the upper right photo, we see the site of the Trail of Death first night encampment. Below that, Leslie Gee shoots video from re-enactors' canoe. The next photo shows where the Wabash-Erie Canal crossed over Burnett's Creek. Then, we see the Illinois State Capitol at Springfield.